

Wimbledon and Oval on 'risk' list • Inquiry covers violence • Brittan extends safety law to all league clubs

Every sports ground faces fire check

Colin Brown, Local Reporter

Almost every sports ground in the country, from football pitches to local cricket teams, is to be covered in the most comprehensive review of fire safety ever launched after the Bradford City football stadium fire which claimed 53 lives.

The Home Secretary, Mr. John Brittan, announced yesterday to the Commons that officers would be reviewing safety standards at all grounds which cater for spectators. It could mean the closure of some clubs.

Mr Brittan, after consulting with the Prime Minister, is to be extending the scope of the 1975 Safety of Sports Grounds Act to the first and fourth divisions of the Football League.

Mr Brittan said that the review would be carried out by the Health and Safety Commission, which will put extra burdens on the 37 clubs not covered by the act.

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and the death of a 15-year-old boy who was crushed under a wall after crowd violence at Birmingham City on Saturday.

MPs pressed the Government in the Commons yesterday to provide money to ensure greater ground safety. Several pointed out that the Horse Race Betting Levy Board ploughed money into horse racing but the Government took money away from the football clubs.

Mr Joe Ashton, said this was because horse racing was the sport of kings while football was the sport of the working class.

Mr Brittan was pressed to reconsider the Government's demand for clubs to install perimeter fencing. The shadow home secretary, Mr Gerald Kaufman, said that a fence would have caused an even more horrific fire trap had it been installed at Bradford.

Mr Brittan insisted that the installation of such fences had to be made in the light of other fire safety precautions.

He did not say what these were but it is understood that all clubs installing fences to control crowds in the future will be expected to have stewards available to open exit gates in the event of emergencies.

Many of the deaths at Bradford were caused by victims being trapped at the locked exit gates.

The review of fire safety goes far beyond the requirements of the 1975 act, which was introduced mainly to prevent a recurrence of the 1982 Park disaster at Glasgow, when 66 fans were crushed to death.

In addition to the thousands of small grounds which will be visited to check on the fire hazard presented by wooden buildings, fire officers will also be calling at leading grounds not covered by the act, including the Oval, Lord's, and Wimbledon.

National stadiums, including Twickenham, Wembley, Cardiff Arms Park and Wrexham, are already designated under the act. But leading greyhound racing tracks will also be inspected.

Fire officers using emergency powers under the act can recommend the closure of any public grounds because of the fire risks. The clubs can be forced to close their grounds by a court if it is satisfied that there are safety risks to the public.

Mr Brittan said the chief fire officers would also be inspecting the opening and locking of gates at sports grounds. He will be discussing with the football authorities immediately how the provisions of the act could be extended to the third and fourth divisions.

Mr Peter Snape, a director of fourth division Stockport County and Labour MP for West Bromwich, warned: "Unless government money is forthcoming, the third and fourth division clubs are doomed."

It was felt last night that the Prime Minister's personal involvement in combating soccer hooliganism will add to the pressures on the Government to find further money for improvements.

But one option likely to be considered is a change in the way the money held by the trust is dispensed. At the moment, 60 per cent goes on safety and 40 per cent goes on other work, such as the new railway station for Watford.

The emphasis on safety could be increased.

Mr Richard Faulkner, secretary of the Football Trust, said last night that an application was received from the club, enclosing a letter dated July 11 from West Yorkshire County Council.

The letter said that the club was aware of the danger of fire and was taking steps to improve its safety.

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SURVIVORS: A young fan has facial burns treated (above) at Bradford's Royal Infirmary, and Mr David Husler, aged 45, in bed at St Luke's Hospital, Bradford, where he is one of 47 people awaiting plastic surgery.



Club used warning letters to gain grant

By Malcolm Pithers and Sarah Bosely

The fire and general safety risks posed by Bradford City football club's decaying main stand were pointed out in two letters to it from the county council last July, it was revealed yesterday.

As another victim died in hospital, bringing the death toll to 33, and police confirmed that smoke bombs had been thrown during the match, copies of the warning letters were released by West Yorkshire County Council.

On July 11, Bradford City were told that the "existing fire risk covering the areas of the main stand, create an unacceptable crowd-safety hazard and should be rectified as soon as possible."

The timber construction is a fire hazard and in particular there is a build-up of combustible materials in the voids beneath the seats. A careless discarded cigarette would give rise to a fire risk."

The second letter, from the council's executive director of engineering, was intended to assist the club in obtaining a grant towards the cost of replacing the roof of the main stand.

I wish to confirm the findings of that report; that the existing fire risk covering the areas of the main stand, create an unacceptable crowd-safety hazard, and should be rectified as soon as possible.

Extracts from the letters sent to Bradford on July 11 (above) and July 18

1. The timber construction is a fire hazard and in particular, there is a build-up of combustible materials in the voids beneath the seats. A careless discarded cigarette could give rise to a fire risk.
2. Egress from the grandstand should be achievable in 2.5 minutes.

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Stampede for BAE shares

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

Another stampede to cash in on a government sale of public assets was disclosed yesterday when the British Aerospace share offering was over-subscribed nearly 20 times.

Small savers and share traders submitted more than £1.58 billion of cheques in pursuit of only £20 million worth of British Aerospace shares freely available in the latest privatisation exercise.

City bankers and brokers worked flat out over the weekend sifting 264,000 separate applications for 794 million BAE shares. Only 40 million shares are available to them.

This is likely to arouse renewed fears among critics that the Government regularly sells public assets too cheaply.

But the Technology Minister, Mr Geoffrey Pattie, hailed the BAE sales as a further success and Mr Marcus Agius of the government bankers, Leazards Bros, said: "We are absolutely certain that we could not have got a higher price."

The complete sale of BAE shares - including those reserved for employees and financial institutions - will raise £383 million for the Government's 48 per cent holding in BAE. The company is using the opportunity to raise a further £187 million taking the total shares sale worth £570 million.

In an attempt to avoid the embarrassment of the huge over-subscription seen in last year's British Telecom privatisation 106 million of the 146 million shares for sale were earmarked for the major financial institutions or BAE shareholders and employees.

The small investors' terms allowed a down payment of 200p on the full 375p buying price.

As a result of the over-subscription, buyers will get only a fraction of the shares they wanted. Those applying for up to 300 shares will get 100 and, on the sliding scale of applications, worked out yesterday, those seeking up to 20,000 will get only 275.

But the successful applicants have been guaranteed a quick profit because BAE shares yesterday surged 18p to 486p, to stand an effective 81p higher than the 375p flotation price.

Labour MP shatters Falklands accord

By a Falklands Correspondent

A row between a Labour MP and a Falkland Islander broke out at a lunch for Prince Andrew in Port Stanley yesterday to mark the opening of the island's new airport.

Mr George Foulkes, Labour MP for Carmarthen, Carmarthen and Doon Valley, a member of the British delegation to the airport opening on Sunday had impugned the courage of the 1,800 islanders during the war in 1982 between Britain and Argentina.

In a reference to the Argentine mothers of "disappeared persons," he said: "The mad mothers of the Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires had more guts than the Falkland Islanders."

Mrs Pat Luxton, wife of an island councillor, promptly smashed a water jug on the table in front of Mr Foulkes, bringing the lunch to an embarrassed silence.

Prince Andrew, had just left the room but the Defence Secretary, Mr Michael Heseltine

stepped in and separated the two, taking Mr Foulkes aside for a talk.

Mr Foulkes, who opposes the government's "Fortress Falklands" policies, had already angered islanders with a broadcast radio comment that the airport opening was "a load of hooey."

George Foulkes - Islanders upset



New Lords setback on GLC bill

By John Carvel, Political Correspondent

The House of Lords yesterday inflicted a fourth defeat on the Government during committee stage of the bill to abolish the GLC and the Metropolitan county councils.

The amendment introduced by the Bishop of London, the Right Reverend Graham Leonard, denied ministers contingency plans for possible future dismemberment of the inner London Education Authority. The amendment was carried by 132 to 133.

But the opposition failed to press a vote on a further, more damaging amendment, which would have obliged ministers to submit to fresh legislation any future plans for "rewriting" the Education Act.

The Government has suffered a defeat in the Lords on each of the four days on which the abolition bill has so far been discussed in committee.

There had already changed important clauses concerning the future of waste and dis-

posal, highways and conservation in the seven big English conurbations. Although the Government has made it clear that it intends to restore its original proposals, either at report stage in the Lords or subsequently in the Commons, the sheer bulk of hostile amendments may increase problems of timetable.

Bringing abolition into effect by April 1, 1988, amendment related to the clause in the bill which placed a duty on

the Education Secretary to review the operation of the Education Act after four years. The Bishop of London said that such a mandatory review, followed by further reviews after 1991, would be "demoralising and disruptive."

Under questioning, Lord Gower explained that the Government would empower the Secretary of State to transfer some or all of the London bor-

oughs without further primary legislation.

The amendment takes away the obligation on the Government to review the bill within five years, but still allows it the option to carry one out. A further amendment to make any transfer of powers subject to fresh primary legislation was lost, amid some confusion, when no vote was called.

A further amendment to create a single joint authority in each of the metropolitan counties to run the services for fire, police, transport and waste disposal, was defeated by the Government by 148 votes to 134.

If this had been passed the metropolitan counties believed that they would have gone at least halfway to restoring countywide authorities similar to the ones at present due for abolition. But after the defeat of the amendment, Lord Gower explained that the Government would empower the Secretary of State to transfer some or all of the London bor-

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Hit men called off but the rhetoric lingers on

From Michael White, in Washington

THE Reagan Administration was left looking embarrassed and indecisive yesterday when it refused to condemn the killing in Lebanon last year, only to back off when a freelance bomb attack

According to a variety of sources in Congress, the media, and the bureaucracy here, President Reagan responded to the suicide bombing which killed 241 US troops at the American Embassy in Beirut in September 1982, by approving a CIA training programme for Lebanese groups capable of making their own "counter-terrorist" strikes - a move consistent with the Administration's public rhetoric in favour of "pre-emptive self-defence" against world-wide terrorism.

The outcome was a car bomb attack, apparently intended to kill a prominent Shiite suspect, Mr Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, which missed him but killed 80 and wounded 200 in Beirut in March.

With the Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, engaged in delicate peace negotiations in the region, the CIA yesterday responded to charges, originally made in Sunday's Washington Post, with a cautiously worded denial. It said that the agency had never conducted any Lebanese security forces in this connection, had no foreknowledge of the counter-terrorist action described, and had "scrupulously observed" its legal obligations to inform leaders of congressional supervisory committees of its major activities.

This left a number of loose ends hanging and did not all the while the State Department, which has been officially on intelligence matters, could not confirm the important corollary that, after the March bombing, done by people hired by a Lebanese counter-terrorist group, the Administration backed off from its rhetoric and cancelled the entire covert support operation, though not the rhetoric, which continued.

Last year's leading lights in the intelligence committees on Capitol Hill were apparently told of what Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, former committee vice-chairman, was quoted as calling "a small anti-terrorist turn to back page, col. 3

NEWS IN BRIEF

Campaign faces ban

LABOUR's national executive is to be recommended by the party's organisation committee to limit the Youth Trade Union Rights Campaign from using party headquarters. The campaign, which organised the recent strike by school pupils, has denied being a front for the militant tendency, but its president, Mr Dave Nellist, MP, a Militant supporter.

UDR pledge

MR DOUGLAS Hurd, the U.S. Secretary, yesterday rejected suggestions that the future of the UDR would be negotiable in Anglo-Irish talks on the province. Page 1.

Mass breakout

MANY thousands of illegal aliens broke out of a transit camp near Lagos yesterday and headed for the Niger-Benin border in a convoy of cars and buses. Page 7.

Alliance hopes

THE Alliance parties expect to control seven county councils in England and Wales in the near future. Page 1.

Shiner arrested

MR GODFREY SHINER, the British businessman deported from Cairo after being held on allegations of conspiracy, was arrested when he arrived at Heathrow airport last night.

Communist losses

THE Italian Communist Party appear to be losing ground in the country's local elections. Page 6.

Credit title

THIS small Cheshire town of Wilmslow has become the first in Britain to have its own credit card. Page 3.

The weather

SHOWERS and sunny intervals. Details, back page.

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Madrid 25p
Manchester 25p
Paris 25p
Rome 25p
Stockholm 25p
Zurich 25p



Simon Inglis reports on the painful questions that 37 clubs must confront in the long term if they are to protect their supporters

The road to soccer safety is strewn with pitfalls

THE Home Secretary's decision yesterday to include third and fourth division grounds in the Safety of Sports Grounds Act is only the first step on a long and potentially difficult road. It represents no instant cure to the kind of problems which beset Bradford City.

Thirty-seven league grounds are not designated and the other 11 lower division grounds are because the clubs have been in the first or second division since 1975 when the act was introduced. Each of the 37 must complete a varying degree of improvement work to fulfil the minimum standards laid down by the Home Office's green code of 1976.

Newly-designated clubs have been given 12 months in which to complete the safety work demanded by local authority inspectors. Bradford, for example, had planned to start renovation on their ill-fated stand yesterday and would have completed as much as possible by the beginning of next season.

If a safety inspector believes that a section of a ground is unsafe then this 12-month waiver is generally withdrawn. Some terracing at Chelsea has been roped off until the club can afford repairs.

The relationship between safety inspectors and clubs during improvement work is close. The inspectors are expected to take into consideration the "clubs' special circumstances" physical rather than economic because demolition sites could prove an even greater hazard next season. However, there is a strong case for closing certain wooden sections and the clubs have the close season to make provisions for this.

The Bradford disaster proved that evacuation procedures were crucially lacking and the third and fourth division clubs will also have the summer to check exit gates, drill staff and voluntary stewards, and ensure that



Wooden stands are closed as clubs make checks

THE shock waves of the Bradford fire spread through the whole Football League yesterday, with some third and fourth division clubs closing or thinking of closing their wooden stands.

Thirty-seven league clubs are not designated under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act, as well as many small rugby league and union clubs.

The chairman of fourth division Aldershot, Mr David O'Connell, said that the club's 1,200-seat wooden stand would be closed off for the final game against Rochdale on Friday.

The directors of Torquay United met last night to consider closing their 400-seat stand. At Reading, builders were called in yesterday to remove some of the bricks in

the low wall around the pitch and some rows of seats.

Bury, which has fencing around parts of its ground, is creating more fire exits. Its two stands can take up to 12,000 people.

Third division Brentford agreed to open two gates which are normally closed after a visit from Greater London Council officials.

Grimsby Town's main wooden stand has been fire-proofed as part of a £1 million ground improvement, but the club's managing director, Mr Tom Lindley, said that he would close it if that was the fire authorities' advice.

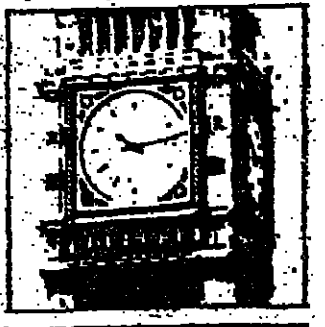
Luton, which recently put up fencing around parts of the ground, said it was confident that its two wooden stands were safe. "All exits are clear and unobstructed and the gates at the front have

panic bars," a spokesman said.

Norwich City, whose wooden main stand was destroyed in a £2 million blaze last year, yesterday revealed the safety features which are being built into the replacement. Work is due to begin soon on the new three-tier stand, which will seat 3,500.

The club secretary, Mr Nigel Plessants, revealed that the entire stand will be built of concrete and steel. "All the seats will be fixed straight into concrete and, where possible, fire-resistant materials will be used — the only wood which will be used will be for the doors," he said.

"In addition, alarm panels in every section will be linked to a main control room. The builders will ensure that all gaps between floors and walls — where lit paper or cigarettes could fall, will be filled in."



David McKie

No easy solutions to crowd control

MOST MPs, like the rest of us — some, perhaps, coming in from the football themselves on Saturday night — saw the TV pictures of the carnage at Valley Parade. If they found little new or memorable to say about them yesterday that was no surprise and even in one sense a mercy: for the most part, facts which spoke all too dreadfully for themselves were not dressed up, as they sometimes are on such occasions, in redundant rhetoric and striving for effect.

Rather fewer would have looked closely at the events which took place the same afternoon at St Andrew's ground at Birmingham, where a 15-year-old fan

Hampshire, Northampton, was fatally hurt when a rioting crowd demolished a boundary wall. Visiting Leeds supporters had halted that match for half an hour after Birmingham took the lead. According to the shadow sports minister, Denis Howell, who was there, at least 1,500 people were on the pitch at one time; almost 100 policemen were injured. How it must have been for Valley Parade. St Andrew's might have been the focus of an anguished Commons examination yesterday.

The Home Secretary, Leon Brittan, who had the Prime Minister at his side throughout 50 minutes of exchanges yesterday, began, Mrs. Howe, from Labour MPs for bracketing these two events in his statement and in the terms of reference for the Poplewell inquiry. Gerald Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, said he had not come expecting to be contro-

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Council releases text of letters

Malcolm Pithers on the evidence of hazard warnings sent to the club

WEST Yorkshire County Council last night released copies of letters sent to Bradford City Football Club last July warning that the timber construction of its main stand was "a fire hazard."

Disclosing the text of the letters, the council leader, Mr John Gummell, said in London after a visit to the Home Office that he was doing so in the public interest and to avoid further speculation. He stressed that the county council would co-operate fully in a public inquiry.

He pointed out that recommendations made to the club in the two letters were not statutory because Bradford City were playing in the third division and therefore did not require a certificate under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act.

Mr Gummell said: "As is well known, the county council had initiated a meeting with the club which would have taken place this coming Wednesday and which would

The second letter, also to Mr Newman, was dated July 18, 1984. It read: "Further to my engineer's visit to your ground of July 4, 1984, I am pleased to enclose a letter which may assist you in obtaining a grant from the Sports Ground Trust, towards the cost of re-covering the main grandstand roof. Nothing in that letter should be construed as implied approval of the condition or structural adequacy of the stand."

"As the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council is the licensing authority under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975, it may assist you to know what some of the council's other considerations would be, should at some time in the future the provisions of the act apply to Bradford City AFC ground."

"These are: 1) Main grandstand (a) the unusual construction of this stand makes an appraisal of structural adequacy desirable; (b) the timber construction is a fire hazard and in particular, there is a build-up of combustible materials in the voids beneath the seats. A careless discarded cigarette could give rise to a fire risk; (c) egress from the grandstand should be achievable in 2.5 minutes."

2) Other stands (a) appraisal for structural adequacy and maintain to adequate corrosion-protection standards; (b) repair defective roof sheeting."

(3) Perimeter and crowd-control fences (a) repair and strengthen to acceptable standard."

(4) Crush barriers (a) test, strengthen and repair to acceptable standard; (b) lack of barriers reduces the safe spectator density on terraces."

(5) Terraces (a) overhaul terracing to provide acceptable surfacing and slope; (b) provide adequate exits from terracing."

"These considerations are contained within the publication, Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds — Football, published by HMSO."

"In concluding, may I point out that the above considerations would form part of the statutory consultation process required under the provisions of the act. The county council is obliged by law to have regard to other considerations, eg: fire safety precautions (chief fire officer), crowd control supervision (chief constable) and local building control requirements (Bradford metropolitan district council)."

The club's chairman, Mr Stafford Heginbotham, was adamant last night that the two letters had not to his knowledge been received by the club which was then in receivership.



During Saturday's fire a policeman uses his helmet to shade his face from the intense heat that burned many victims

Doctors begin long-term burns treatment

Harold Jackson reports on the task of the Bradford medical teams led by David Sharpe, left

Mr David Earl, an off-duty policeman who was watching the match, with his two young sons, was typical of the less serious cases.

In the panic after escaping from the stand he spent a frantic 45 minutes searching for David and Jonathan, aged nine and seven, unaware of his own injuries.

Only when the boys had been found safe at the local police station did he become conscious of his badly burned scalp and hand.

Mr Jack Hodgson, aged 63, spent an equal time running round the pitch looking for his wife, having lost his shoes and spectacles in the panic. The couple were being treated for burns and abrasions sustained as Mrs Hodgson climbed over a 5ft wall to get away from the heat.

Most of the victims were burned on their scalp and hands, and many commented yesterday that they had not been struck by burning debris from their injuries had come from the extraordinary heat thrown off from the blaze.

"I was about 40 yards away," one man said, "and it was like being under a grill."

On an otherwise grim day for Bradford, where shops and businesses throughout the city held their company flags at half mast, the one bright spot seemed to be a possible improvement in the often difficult community relations. Behind the Valley Parade football ground lies a predominantly Asian area.

As the disaster unfolded its citizens threw open their houses to the dazed victims streaming from the back of the blazing stand.

Survivors were comforted and given immediate help. Many were able to telephone their families from Asian homes to reassure them that they were unhurt.

As one victim commented yesterday: "It only goes to show that race and colour go out of the window in a case like this. All that matters is humanity."

Match replay

By our Sports Staff

Bradford City's Third Division match against Lincoln City, abandoned on Saturday, will be replayed next Sunday at Odsal Stadium, home of Bradford Northern Rugby League club.

All match proceeds are to be donated to Bradford City Council's Disaster Fund. If Bradford score twice they will qualify for a £4,500 award from Canon, the Football League's sponsors, as the division's top scorers.

Lincoln City striker, Gordon Hobson, yesterday warned that he and the rest of his team would consider taking union action if the Football League forced them to replay their match with Bradford City.

Hobson said: "We don't really want it to be replayed because we feel it's too early. The feelings are still so strong at the moment and people could still be dying in hospital while the game was being played."

"If the people of Bradford and Bradford City wanted us to play then it would be different

THE MEDICAL reconstruction work started in earnest at Bradford's hospitals yesterday, after the make do and mend of Saturday night. At St Luke's, three surgical theatres were working throughout the day and by last night the team of doctors, led by Mr David Sharpe, had completed 20 major skin graft operations.

"I have never seen burns on this scale before," Mr Sharpe said. "It is a vast number."

The hospital's two staff plastic surgeons were augmented by six others, brought in from Leeds, Newcastle and Wythenshawe. A further three surgeons were on standby.

The administrator of the Royal Infirmary, Mr Mitchell Grant, said last night: "The disaster hit us almost without warning. Normally, you expect to get up to half an hour's alert of a major incident."

"Because we're so near the football ground the burn victims started to arrive within a couple of minutes of our hearing of the fire. It was as much as we could do to give them first aid."

After this initial flood had subsided much of the infirmary's Sunday was devoted to transforming a fourth floor ward into a special burns unit, which went into full operation yesterday.

By mid-afternoon 88 of the victims had crowded into the hastily erected cubicles for full examination and treatment.

The infirmary's medical team transferred 23 of the most serious cases to St

more than a dozen of those who died in the Bradford disaster were children, most of them at Bradford schools. Mr Richard Knight, director of the city's education department, said yesterday, writes Susan Tibbitt.

One of the dead, a teacher, is believed to be Mr Peter Greenwood, aged 38, a charity worker, who went to the match with his two sons Felix, aged 11, and Rupert, aged 13. His wife Hazel and daughter, Jessie, aged

seven, were being comforted by relatives at their home in Denholme, near Bradford. Plans by the city's education department to help schoolchildren and adults to come to terms with their bereavement were being prepared by education advisers yesterday.

Mr Knight said: "It could be impossible to help people in hospital; it could be money. We are trying to assess what the immediate needs are."

More than 12 children among dead

More than 12 children among dead

More than 12 children among dead

More than 12 children among dead

More than 12 children among dead



Mr John Gummell: full cooperation promised

have discussed those changes needed to comply with the act as a second division club. I understand that the normal procedure is that clubs are given 12 months within which to comply."

The first letter sent to Mr Terence Newman, the club secretary, was dated July 11, 1984. It was sent by Mr F. A. Sims, the executive director of engineering for the council. It read: "Safety in sports grounds, Bradford City AFC, re-covering of west grandstand. I refer to my engineer's visit to your ground on July 4, 1984 and a copy of the inspection report by Trade of the west grandstand roof covering passed to him."

"I wish to confirm the findings of that report, that the existing felt roof covering and the areas of decayed boarding resulting consequently create an unacceptable crowd safety hazard and should be rectified as soon as possible."



SOUNDING OFF: The brass section of The Manchester Camerata plays a musical lament on top of a London bus ahead of today's Lords debate on the fate of the arts when metropolitan county councils are abolished. Campaigners claim that this will threaten hundreds of musicians, artists, actors and dancers forced to compete for grants from under-funded district councils. Picture by Martin Argles

Illegal nuclear protests 'certain'

Opponents of nuclear power and weapons in Britain would be increasingly driven to break the law in furtherance of their protests, an environmental leader said yesterday.

Acts of lawlessness were "quite appropriate" and inevitable if the government continued to ignore growing anti-nuclear feeling, said Mr Paul Elkins, of the Ecology Party.

He warned of increasing conflict, similar to scenes at Greenham Common, where "peace-loving, non-violent citizens" clashed with authority.

Mr Elkins made his remarks at the London launch of the party's Nuclear-Free UK campaign and a booklet which argues against a nuclear Britain and offers alternatives.

The booklet claims that nuclear power causes pollution, danger and health risks, and is becoming ever more expensive. It argues that nuclear weapons have damaged the earth, sea and atmosphere and make Britain an easy target.

The campaign team plan to travel 2,000 miles to stage exhibitions and talks at Canterbury, Havering, east London, Dorchester, Bristol, Plymouth, Exeter, Southport, Leeds, Chesterfield and Bedford.

Enhanced roles in education, health, and money matters

Burden of care made easier for foster parents

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Foster parents and step-parents are to be able to apply for new legal rights to look after children in their care, under legislation coming into force from December, Mr John Patten, the social services minister announced the move yesterday.

The new right — to be known as custodianship — will be a half-way house between fostering and adoption but will give foster parents most of the rights enjoyed by natural parents.

The changes were originally granted by Dr David Owen when he was Labour health minister in 1975 but have not been implemented.

They will make it much easier for foster parents who have looked after children for more than three years and for step-parents to assume full responsibility for their children.

The powers which step-parents and foster parents will gain include choosing a child's school, obtaining medical treatment, and opening bank and post office accounts. In the case of foster children these powers are held by social services.

The new custodianship rules will not take away the right of natural parents to see their children which would be lost if an adoption order were granted. Custodianship will also curb the role of social services departments in long-term fostering, since the foster parents will be able to assume powers now held by the department.

Application for a custodianship order will be simple — with magistrates and county courts expected to hear most of the cases.

Mr Tony Hall, director of the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering, said yesterday: "We welcomed the change although we view the future with some trepidation as it is not clear whether one effect of the new law will be to reduce the number of adoptions because courts might prefer to grant custodianship orders."

Plan for greenbelt towns opposed

By Susan Tirbutt

Strong opposition to plans for 15 new country towns in the South-east, proposed by a consortium of leading house-builders, was voiced yesterday at a conference at the Royal Town Planning Institute in London.

The opposition came from representatives of Serplan, the planning conference of local planning authorities in the South-east, the Greater London Council and Manchester County Council.

The RPTI organised the one-day conference to take soundings on the proposal for 15 small towns put forward by Consortium Developments, which comprises the 10 biggest house-building companies in Britain.

One proposed site for a town of 12,000 people, Tillingham Hall, near Thurrock in the Essex green belt, was announced last week. Two more, one of them in Hampshire, are expected to be announced by the end of the year by the Consortium.

Mr George Nicholson, chairman of Serplan policy committee and GLC's planning committee, said: "We are convinced our figures show there is no need for this development."

"There is enough land in London to build the houses that need to be built to the end of the century," Mr Nicholson suggested the London docklands area as one such site.

"We will not stand idly back and allow this scheme to go ahead. We have been misled in the past by the statisticians and professionals," Mr Chris Shepler, deputy planning officer of Greater Manchester council, said that growth in the South was creating a pretty uncivilised way of life. The balance should be redressed by developing the other regions.

"Anybody can have a glamorous and profitable time building trendy new villages in the leafy Essex green belt, but as far as your average long-term unemployed, increasingly bitter and resentful northern inner city teenager is concerned, they may as well be on the moon," he said.

Consortium figures forecast a major housing crisis in the South-east, based on the assumption of a growth of 720,000 new households between 1981 and 1991.

Wilmslow's well-heeled bring credit to the town

By Tom Sharrett

AMID a fanfare of PR razzmatazz Wilmslow, Manchester's affluent commuter town, revealed itself yesterday as the first town in the country to have its own credit card.

The Wilmslow Card is a cheeky bit of self-promotion for a town of little more than 30,000 people, well-heeled though they may be. It is a charge card which will allow shoppers to put purchases on account and which the local chamber of trade hopes will confine more common pieces of plastic like Access and Barclaycard to the dustbin of history, in Wilmslow at least.

The scheme will be launched the September on a market of a quarter of a million potential customers over a wide area from Manchester to Stoke on Trent.

Cardholders, who may live anywhere so long as they shop in Wilmslow, will be able to set their own credit limit up to £1,500; traders taking part are confined to the town and the chamber hopes that at least 90 per cent of the shops will join in. They will have to, if the scheme is to work.

The project is the brainchild of Mr Paul Robinson, the chamber's president. The idea, he said yesterday, is that shoppers will be able to use the Wilmslow Card for a much wider range of goods and services than is available with an ordinary card. If all goes well, there will be free parking, and special offers for cardholders, too.

The scheme will be operated and financed for the chamber by Credit and Data Marketing Services, part of the Littlewoods organisation.

Exactly how many Wilmslow Cards will be issued initially is a secret, but Mr Robinson is confident that the target figure will be comfortably exceeded.

If local cards are the coming thing, Wilmslow is no bad place to start as a commuter community of Tories and Alliance supporters with money to spare.

Other towns may profitably take up the idea especially in the wealthy South-east — but there are no plans for a gold Wilmslow Card. Not yet, anyway.

Hurd rules out talks on UDR with Irish

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

The Northern Ireland Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, yesterday rejected suggestions that the future of the Protestant-dominated Ulster Defence Regiment would be open to negotiation in Anglo-Irish talks on the future of the province.

Speaking in Belfast, Mr Hurd said that the 6,600-strong force was an indispensable part of the security system and was here to stay for the foreseeable future.

Mr Hurd was replying to comments made last week by the Irish prime minister, Dr Garret FitzGerald, who told a New York audience: "I have talked to committed nationalists in Northern Ireland who say that two-thirds of the force is all right, but one third is very dangerous indeed."

"They are in some part, a very dangerous force, as their loyalty does not lie with the British Crown. It would be surprising if, in the context of Anglo-Irish discussions, the question of the UDR did not arise because of our concern about them."

Mr Hurd said yesterday: "The responsibility for the security of the province rests with Her Majesty's Government. The UDR is an indispensable part of that and the Irish government knows it. The future of the UDR is not a matter for negotiation."

The UDR, which is 97 per cent Protestant, is a regiment of the British army but serves only in Northern Ireland, where all its members must live.

Unionists point out that 149 UDR men and women have been killed since 1971 and argue that in some areas, particularly near the border, it is the most significant factor in keeping the paramilitaries at bay.

Many nationalists, however, believe that the regiment is rotten beyond reform. Its name has been tarnished in a series of recent court cases where members have been convicted of criminal offences and linked to illegal Protestant para military organisations.

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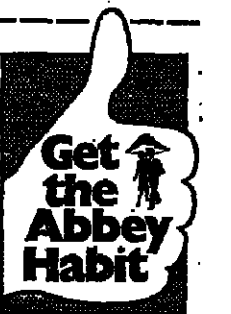
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ABBNEY NATIONAL HIGHER INTEREST ACCOUNT

Ministers will break word if Serps are abolished

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, could have broken a pledge he gave to Parliament if the Government's green paper contains proposals to abolish the earnings-related pension scheme, according to a House of Commons library research paper circulated to MPs.

The paper says successive answers by Conservative ministers to MPs since 1981 do constitute a pledge to maintain the value of the earnings-related pension at least for the 1979-83 and 1983-88 parliaments.

The paper says that assurances on the pension scheme have been given by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, Mrs Lynda Chalker, the junior transport minister, and in a letter to Age Concern, by Mr Rhodes Boyson, now the Northern Ireland minister.

The paper is one of a series produced by researchers at the House of Commons library. Mr Fowler is said to have given the most specific pledge to MPs on November 22 last year, when he set up the retirement inquiry which has now led to the impending green paper.

He said: "My aim in setting up an inquiry is not to call into question the fundamental pension structure that was established in the 1970s with all-party agreement and to which I was a party."

Rather, it is to ensure that our pension structure is soundly based, that it is fair between contributors and beneficiaries as well as between all scheme members and that it continues to command the support of the community as a whole.

The paper also shows that Mr Fowler and Mr Kenneth Clarke, the health minister, also supported the creation of the state earnings-related pension scheme in 1975 when the bill was before Parliament. Neither of them voted against the bill.

Mr Clarke told MPs on March 13, 1975: "We desire a political truce and an end to pensions being used as a political football. . . . In committee we shall have a genuine desire to try to improve the bill so that the resulting measure is one of which the Government can be proud and which the Conservative Party, when it returns to office, can accept as a bipartisan basis for a future pension policy."

Both expressed concern about the cost but Mr Fowler concluded: "The CBI says that employers are anxious for a firm, long-term basis for pensions, agreed by all parties, as soon as possible."

"The CBI think that the structure of the bill could provide an acceptable and workable basis. We are prepared to accept that advice."

Lord Ennals, Labour's former social secretary, has published a letter to the Prime Minister warning her that ending the state earnings-related pension scheme would be a betrayal of the interests of millions of pensioners.

He asks whether it is her aim to reduce the level of pensions for those who retire in the next 15 years, and what new evidence has cast doubt on the viability of a scheme agreed 10 years ago.

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Brittan to consider new explosives case evidence

By Stephen Cook

The Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, said last night that he would look carefully at any new scientific evidence about the Maguire case, in which an explosives test now widely regarded as unreliable led to seven people being imprisoned for a total of 60 years.

Swabs of a kitchen glove belonging to Mrs Annie Maguire and the hands of five family members and a friend were

analysed in 1975 by a 17-year-old apprentice government scientist using thin-layer chromatography (TLC).

The single test, which consumed all the sample material, indicated the presence of nitroglycerine equivalent in size to one millionth of a cube of sugar. All seven were convicted in 1976 on forensic evidence alone and the Court of Appeal upheld the convictions.

The campaign to clear the names of the seven, who have

now served their sentences, was described last night on a Channel 4 programme produced by RTE, the Irish broadcast body.

Lord Fitt, Cardinal Hume and Sir John Biggs-Davison, the Tory MP, are among those who believe in their innocence.

Two scientists, Dr Peter Boyle, of Trinity College, Dublin, and Professor Brian Caddy, of the University of Strathclyde, said on the programme that the single TLC

test was not reliable evidence and should have been repeated using different solvents or corroborated by gas spectrum or gas liquid chromatography.

At a late stage of the trial evidence was introduced which showed that another explosive called PETN produces positive results under TLC.

Lord Fitt said yesterday that this evidence had been hurried and badly presented, and this alone meant that the case should be reopened.

"I'm confident that a case based on this amount of evidence would not even get into court now," he said. "In fact, I know they got similar results from a Palestine Liberation Organisation man but chose to deport him rather than bring him to court."

Mrs Maguire, her husband, two sons, her brother, her brother-in-law and a family friend were arrested after her nephew and another man — later convicted for the Guildford pub-bombing — had

told police that bombs had been made in her kitchen. They retracted the statements at their trial, saying that they had been beaten.

Although the seven said at the trial that they were beaten, they made no admissions and the trial evidence related entirely to the TLC tests. No explosives were found in the house in north London where the Maguires had lived since 1957.

Mr Joe Mulholland, head of current affairs at RTE, said

yesterday: "I think one of the reasons the Government is reluctant to look again at this case is that it will open a can of worms. This was not the only bomb case of the seventies where TLC formed the crucial evidence."

It was stated at the Maguire trial that the family house had been used to make the Guildford pub bomb. The IRA men convicted after the London bombing were said to have since said that they were responsible for Guildford.

Labour shuns SDP to accept Tory rule in some councils

Alliance heading for control over seven counties

By Geoff Andrews, Local Government Correspondent

The Liberal Social Democratic Alliance expects to control seven county councils in England and Wales when the dust settles on the current round of annual meetings. Before the elections at the beginning of this month it controlled only the Isle of Wight.

The Alliance's hopes of holding sway in a much larger number of authorities, with the support of Labour, have dwindled as it becomes apparent that a number of local Labour parties are content to allow Conservatives to rule rather than enter into pacts.

The six counties to be controlled by the Alliance for the first time will be Cambridgeshire, Cornwall (jointly with Independents), Devon (it currently negotiates with minoritarians), Gloucestershire, Somerset, and Wiltshire in deals with the Labour minoritarians.

The wheeling and dealing which has been going on since the elections will resolve the next fortnight, but in the numerous tight struggles for control the strains are already beginning to show.

Poll erodes position of council's school chief

By Andrew Moneer, Education Staff

The hard-line leader of the employers' side in the teachers' pay dispute yesterday narrowly held on to his place as a national representative from the shires.

Mr Philip Merridale, Tory chairman of the Association of County Councils, education committee came fourth of five successful candidates for ACC from his authority of Hampshire, where the Conservatives have lost overall control in the elections this month.

"It is one in the eye for him," said Mrs Sue Bartlett, Hampshire County Council Labour group leader, who topped the poll.

Instead of five Tories for ACC Hampshire will now send a cross party delegation of Mrs Bartlett, Liberal group leader, Mr Chris Curtis, and three Tories.

Whether Mr Merridale will keep his position as leader of the management side in teachers' pay negotiations is uncertain.

That will not be settled until mid-June, when the ACC executive council holds its annual meeting, against the background of Conservative losses in the county council elections. Officials of the management side still regard him as a narrow favourite for the leader's role.

He will remain in charge until then, and act as employers' spokesman at a meeting of the Burnham pay negotiating committee. Today he is up for re-election as chairman of Hampshire education committee.

Mr Merridale has angered union leaders by his unchanging stance in the teachers' pay dispute and his outspoken comments, including his description of the presidential address at the Easter conference of the National Union of Teachers, as more suitable for a gathering of orangutans.

Mr Merridale, Conservative chairman and vice chairman of Suffolk education committee, will lose their posts today for voting with the Labour opposition cutting 40 teaching posts.

Woman, 69, should stay says judge

A High Court judge urged the Home Secretary yesterday to reconsider his decision to deport a partially-blind Jamaican woman, who wants to live in Britain with her daughter.

Mr Justice Giddens' comments have no legal force but lawyers acting for Mrs Theana Jackson, aged 69, hope that Mr Leon Brittan will change his mind and allow her to stay with her daughter, a British citizen, in Manchester.

The judge dismissed a challenge brought by Mrs Jackson against the Home Secretary's refusal to allow her to settle or remain in Britain.

The judge said that Mrs Jackson came to Britain in January last year after being thrown out by her daughter-in-law in New York, where she had gone to live because she had no relatives left in Jamaica.

She was granted permission to stay in the United States but relations with her daughter-in-law broke down. "She backed her belongings, took her to New York airport and put her on a plane for London," said the judge.

Mrs Jackson was taken in by her daughter, Mrs Pat Song, of Brixham, Devon, who, after admitting her on the ground of hardship, refused her permission to remain.

The officials had been right to refuse her the right to stay in Britain because she had not received the correct entry clearance papers before coming to this country. "This is a very hard case," said the judge.



GETTING THE MESSAGE: A supporter of the 'Newham Seven', whose trial on affray and other charges is expected to begin at the Old Bailey today, makes her point during a demonstration outside the court yesterday. Picture by Lynn Hilton

'Fertility clinics' may open

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

A NUMBER of fertility clinics may be opened to provide counselling services combined with day care facilities for vasectomies, sterilisation and abortions. They would be run by the National Health Service.

The Department of Health is considering the proposals after the publication yesterday of a minority-funded report which condemned the counselling services in these fields as "uneven" and in some cases "inappropriate and confusing."

The report by Mrs Isabel Allen of the Independent Policy Studies Institute, found that nearly 80 per cent of women and 87 per cent of men said that they had had enough or too much counselling on their decision to be sterilised.

The report also discovered that young women were often treated in a patronising way by doctors, particularly junior hospital staff. Mrs Allen said that the report could offer savings to ministers by cutting out unnecessary counselling for most people who had already made up their minds after discussing the matter with close friends and relatives.

Instead, she thought that the money could be redirected to opening a number of pilot fertility clinics where facilities and counselling services could be made available to the groups most in need.

These included people under the age of 20, single parents, women over the age of 35 seeking abortions, and divorced, separated or widowed women.

The clinics would also provide free, well-advised information on pregnancy testing facilities, as well as the major reason for delays in performing abortions.

One young woman who found counselling and doctor's advice "over the top" said: "I tried to make me feel like a six-year-old." Another said she was asked: "Would you rather do hairdressing or have a baby? Your mum would look after it."

Others resented being sent to see a medical social worker because they felt it was none of their business. The report was based on 700 interviews with men and women seeking vasectomies and sterilisation, and women seeking abortions in a northern city and an outer London Borough.

Counselling Services for Sterilisation, Vasectomy and Termination of Pregnancy, 16.80 from the Policy Studies Institute, 100 Park Village East, London NW1 3SR.

By Anthony Tucker, Science Correspondent

Two British experiments costing about £3 million which will keep Britain at the forefront of solar and X-ray astronomy, are ready for launch on board the US shuttle Spacelab 2 flight. Lift-off is due in July from the Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

The flight, which will carry 13 experiments, is the first to

Duke's head 'was to be sent to princess'

Masked raiders who attempted to dig up the Duke of Beaufort's grave planned to remove his head and send it to Princess Anne, it was claimed at a committal proceedings before a magistrates' court yesterday.

The raiders, members of the Hunt Retribution Squad, also intended to scatter parts of the 10th duke's body at the Boxing Day meeting place of the Duke of Beaufort's Hunt, Mr Ian Glen, prosecuting, told Avon North magistrates' court at York, near Bristol.

The attempt failed as a shovel broke when only 10 in of soil remained above the coffin in a family burial ground at Badminton Parish Church, near Bristol. The church adjoins the late duke's home, Badminton House.

Before the court were Terence James Helsby, aged 22, unemployed, of White Hart Lane, Tottenham, London, and John Christopher Curtin, aged 22, unemployed, of Kingsland Avenue, Coventry, West Midlands. The magistrates agreed to the defendants' application to lift reporting restrictions.

The men faced two new charges yesterday. It is alleged that they conspired together with unknown people to desecrate the duke's remains without lawful authority. They were also jointly charged with having caused £100 worth of damage to a wooden cross.

Mr Glen referred to a press release handed in to the Press Association news agency on Boxing Day last year, which set out what happened at the churchyard.

He said that the document was headed: "Desecrate to Liberate, hunt retribution Squad press release. Operation Digging for Victory."

The document told how the squad attempted to steal and desecrate the duke's body. The document added: "We also planned to remove his head and despatch it to Princess Anne."

The note said that there were at least 100 members prepared to use violence to end all blood sports, and named other people who were "targets."

A roll of film delivered with the press release showed three people in paramilitary uniforms, posing with digging tools by a cross.

The hearing continues.

Torture victim's bag is returned by Libyans

By Gareth Parry

The Libyan authorities have discovered a hold-all containing travellers' cheques, diaries and air tickets belonging to Mr Philip Jones, the British engineer whom they mistook, imprisoned and tortured for 13 months as a spy.

The bag was handed to the British interests section of the Italian embassy in Tripoli, on the day the Guardian published an account of Mr Jones's ordeal, and his abortive attempts to gain compensation from Colonel Gadhafi's regime.

The travellers' cheques were to the value of \$17,000 (£13,687). Mr Jones does not know whether they are all still in the bag.

The attempt of his London solicitor, Mr Geoffrey Bindman, to secure justice after more than a year of prevarication, evasion, or silence from the Libyans, who are represented by solicitors in the West End of London.

The Guardian published Mr Jones's story on April 9. Later that day the head of the Libyan Government's civil affairs department in Tripoli took the hold-all and its contents to the British interests section. The bag is on its way to Britain.

Libyan solicitors wrote to Mr Bindman in February saying that claims for compensation could not be entertained because Mr Jones had telephoned them saying that he intended to hold a press conference for five Arab newspapers, to publicise his claim.

Mr Jones denies making such a telephone call, said Mr Bindman.

Mr Jones, aged 36, was earning £2,000 a month as a maintenance engineer for the Libyan Government when he was arrested in February 1982, accused of being a CIA agent, and imprisoned without trial.

He spent much of that time in a trap-door underground cell measuring 8 ft by 3 ft 6 in and was tortured, beaten and starved but refused to sign a "confession."

The Libyans finally admitted that they had the wrong man and a judge ordered that he should be freed and his possessions returned. However, Mr Jones found that his home in Tripoli had been stripped.



Philip Jones — claim for compensation

NEWS IN BRIEF

Disease toll at 35

A 45-YEAR-OLD woman from Cannock, Staffordshire, who is thought to be suffering from Legionnaire's Disease was admitted to Stafford District Hospital yesterday, bringing the total admissions to 158 since the outbreak began, writes Andrew Vellacott.

Two 24-year-old men, one from the Rugby area and the other from the Cannock area, have died from the disease at Kingsmead geriatric hospital, bringing the death toll to 35. Three more patients in the Stafford hospital's intensive care unit were described as "very poorly" last night.

Hoteliers in Staffordshire yesterday reported cancellations and a drop in bookings after the outbreak.

Accused of aiding Libyan

A BUSINESSMAN, Anthony Gill, was yesterday remanded in custody for eight days, charged with helping a Libyan chief to escape from Britain. The Libyan, Mohamed Shehri, is said to be a relative of Col Gadhafi.

Mr Gill, aged 48, of Colchester, Essex, made a two-minute appearance at the City of London Magistrates' Court, London. There was no application for bail. Gill returned to Britain on Sunday after being held in Egypt for six months.

Welsh language trio in court

THREE leading members of the Welsh Language Society were remanded on bail by Cardiff magistrates yesterday on charges of burglary and causing criminal damage after an incident at the headquarters of the Welsh joint education committee in the city at the weekend.

Cruise watchers charged

THREE people have been charged with trespass or criminal damage after an attempt by 400 demonstrators to occupy magistrates' land in Wiltshire. Thirty others arrested were cautioned and released.

The demonstration, on firing ranges near Shrewton on Salisbury Plain, was organised by Cruisewatch, which monitors cruise missile convoys from Greenham Common in Berkshire, to the plain.

Fireball bombs in Londonderry

TWO incendiary devices designed to send a ball of fire rolling across the road were left in the doorways of two shops in the Waterside area of Londonderry on Monday night.

Miner breaks down in court

By Paul Hovland, Welsh Correspondent

A miner accused of murdering a taxi driver during the coal strike broke down yesterday as he told the jury at Cardiff Crown Court: "I feel terribly ashamed of what I have done. I can't express my feelings. I don't suppose his family will ever forgive me."

Reginald Dean, 21, admitted pushing a 40lb concrete block off Rhymney Bridge, near Merthyr Tydfil, as the taxi passed underneath, taking a working miner to Merthyr Vale colliery, in a police convoy. The block smashed through the windscreen killing the driver, Mr David Wilkie, aged 55.

Hancock, who denied murder, said he intended the block to land on the road near the taxi to frighten the working miner, Mr David Williams. Hancock wept as he told the court: "I didn't know him at all. I didn't want to hurt him. I have never hurt a fly in my life."

The jury heard that two other miners, Russell Shankland, aged 21, and Anthony Williams, aged 29, both of Rhymney, mid-Glamorgan, went to Hancock's house, near the bridge shortly before dawn on November 30 last year.

Hancock and Shankland carried a 60lb concrete post to the bridge and placed it on the rail with the block alongside. As the police Land Rover came under a just pushed the block and ran, said Hancock. "I heard a crash, a smash. I heard a scream go off. I was terrified. It was a blur of lights, that's all I could see."

Shankland, who also denies murder, told the jury that he pushed the post off the bridge but had not intended to hurt anyone or damage the vehicle. "It was just a protest gesture against David Williams," he said. "We weren't there to hurt anything. I didn't think anything bad was going to happen."

The three men ran to the home of Hancock's girlfriend in Tredegar, where they heard on the radio that Mr Wilkie had died. "We were in a bit of a panic," said Hancock. "We couldn't believe what had happened," said Hancock. Later we heard that police had been at his house.

Hancock said that the head of South Wales CID, Detective Chief Superintendent Don Carsley, put pressure on him after he went to the police with a solicitor and made a statement. "The door flew open and he said: 'Come on Hancock, cough up. We have got your girl friend upstairs. The quicker you own up, the quicker she can go home to that young baby.'"

"I burst out crying. I told them everything. I thought he would let her go but I found out later he kept her for nine hours."

Hancock agreed with Mr MARTIN Thomas, QC, prosecuting, that it could be expected that people would be killed if the block was dropped 24ft on to the taxi from the bridge. However, he did not want to hurt anyone.

He did not "give a damn" about the strike but admitted having thrown a bottle at Mr Williams's house and sawing down a wooden post to block his route to the colliery.

The judge has directed the jury to find Anthony Williams not guilty of murder. He still faces two charges of conspiring to damage the taxi.

Shankland said that he had threatened against the strike but would never cross a picket line. He had seen disgraceful behaviour by police and pickets on a picket line and had kept well away from the violence.

The trial continues.

Stolen boa

Police are looking for an 8ft Amazonian boa constrictor, stolen from Newquay Zoo, Cornwall, yesterday. The zoo manager, Mr Norman Marshall, said that the snake, which normally crushes and swallows its prey was harmless.

Party leaders urged to resign from NCCL

CIVIL RIGHTS

By Alan Travis

A call for the resignation of the leaders of the SDP/Liberal Alliance and the Labour Party from the National Council for Civil Liberties was made during a Commons debate on civil rights yesterday.

Mr Richard Ottaway (C, Nottingham N) said the 1,500 signatories to the 1984 Charter on Civil Rights, which was designed to widen the NCCL base of support, should resign since the civil rights body now had a "lopsided approach" after the decisions made at its last annual general meeting.

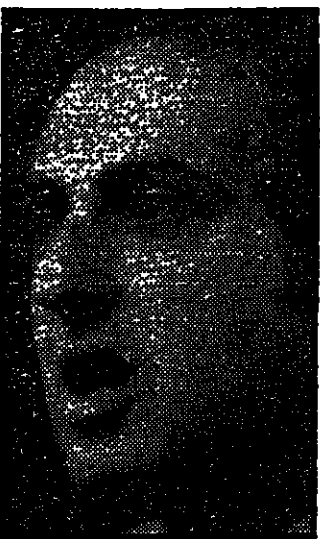
He said he could not agree with the leaders of the Alliance that there was a prospect of reform from within since, on his resignation, Mr Larry Gostin, the former NCCL general secretary, had said that there was little prospect of internal reform.

At the heart of the dispute lay the NCCL's attitude towards the miners' strike, and whether working miners had the same fundamental rights as striking miners. Mr Ottaway said that the people who now controlled the NCCL believed that power, through the right to strike, was more important than the right not to strike. "This I cannot accept," he said.

Mr Ottaway also called for the European convention on Human Rights to be incorporated into British law.

He said that such a move would not only have protected the freedom to associate for working miners, but there was also a general feeling that Kent miners would have had a good case to make at the European Court against police who set up road blocks at the Dartmouth tunnel during the strike.

Mr Alex Carlisle, the Liberal MP for Montgomery and an



Mr Carlisle: 'Legitimate debate for council'

executive committee member of NCCL, said that Mr Ottaway's speech had been "unnecessarily destructive." He said that the debate over collective rights and individual rights had been a legitimate one for the NCCL to pursue.

At the executive meeting which followed the AGM, the committee had passed a resolution regretting the resignation of the members of the NCCL inquiry into the miner's dispute.

He underlined that the NCCL meeting had reaffirmed its commitment to advise individuals on their individual rights, whatever views they held or whatever organisation they were members of.

The AGM had decided that it would not give advice to the National Front as a political party but would continue to offer advice to individuals, he said.

Mr Carlisle also endorsed Mr Ottaway's call for the European Convention of Human Rights to be incorporated into British law.

GLC BILL

Lords strike again

THE GOVERNMENT suffered a fourth defeat in the Lords yesterday on its detailed plans for the abolition of the Greater London Council and metropolitan county councils.

In a move led by the Bishop of London, the Rt Rev. Graham Leonard, the peers rejected government proposals making a review of the position of the Inner London Education Authority mandatory after five years. Voting was 143 to 133 (majority nine) during the resumed committee stage of the Local Government Bill.

The bishop said that a mandatory review, followed by further reviews after 1991, would be demoralising and disruptive. Independent Labour and Alliance peers backed his amendment, which leaves the review process as an option.

For the Government, Lord Gower said the amendments were alarmist, the move should be rejected. "The new idea will be responsible for very substantial sums of taxpayers' money and the Government has an obligation to monitor its use of this money," he said.



RED-BLOODED DONOR: Labour Party Leader Neil Kinnock giving blood at a donor session held at the Treasury in London yesterday

Further £2m for famine victims

FOREIGN AID

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday announced a further £2 million of British aid to help drought victims in Ethiopia and Sudan.

Mr Raison said: "In response to requests by various British voluntary agencies I am pleased to announce further assistance totalling over £2 million for victims of famine in Ethiopia and the Sudan."

The total amount of British Government emergency aid to the Horn of Africa since October, 1984, now totals £55 million.

Jenkin declines to meet the rate-cap rebels

The Environment Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin, yesterday rejected a request from the remaining rate-capping authorities for a meeting, saying that there was nothing to negotiate about.

Mr Jenkin said the seven councils which had not yet set a rate had no excuse for further delay and there was a clear risk that some of them would represent a meeting as "negotiations."

Now that Parliament has approved the rate limits and the rate support grant settlement for 1985/86 and I have no intention of going back to Parliament to seek a change in either, there is nothing to negotiate about.

The Prime Minister last night backed up Mr Jenkin's decision not to meet the local authorities. She did so in a written reply to Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, who had complained about the Environment Secretary's refusal to meet the Association of Metropolitan Authorities and the Association of the London Authorities.

Mrs Thatcher said in her letter that the ratecapped authorities' policy of "non-compliance" with the Rates Act had led to their deliberately choosing not to enter into discussion with Mr Jenkin under the terms of the act when they had the opportunity to do so.

The Labour Party's local government committee yesterday described Mr Jenkin's refusal to meet the local authorities as an "affront to the democratic dialogue between government and citizens."

The committee also agreed a resolution, which could enable those Labour councils who are refusing to set a rate to get off the hook.

The resolution says that through the no-rate tactic for deficit financing budgets, councils could fulfil party policy and force the Government on to the defensive.

"It believes, however, that no party or group should require individual councillors to break the law as an article of faith."

The committee agreed that no council should be expected to continue this particular tactic unless it believed that it was the only option for maintaining jobs and services and that it had an identifiable specific commitment from party members, trade unions, and community groups to ensure that the financial and personal risks were shared with those calling for or who supported such decisions.

The committee declared "absolutely unacceptable" any displays of abuse, division and violent aggression by Labour Party members damaging to the party.

LONDON TUBE

£135m ticket scheme

By Alan Travis

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday announced approval for a £135 million automatic underground ticketing system for London Underground, which will introduce on-the-spot fines to deter fare dodgers.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, the Transport Minister, said yesterday that she hoped the new improved service would be fully operational by 1989. Ultimately, London Transport's 1,100 ticket collectors would disappear.

The ticketing system will involve installation of ticket machinery at all stations, with automatic entry and exit barriers in a central area and "open" stations in the suburbs.

There will be more emphasis on fare checks on buses and mobile ticketing squads will descend without notice on stations to check for fare dodgers.

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, told MPs yesterday.

Mr Pattie described the employees' applications for a stake in their company as "a pretty satisfactory return."

In an exchange after his statement on the privatisation share offer Mr Pattie rejected Opposition claims that the Government had "betrayed a solemn pledge" to retain a 25 per cent holding in the company. "The national interest is totally safeguarded by the special share and also by reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission which is built in," he insisted.

But noting Mr Pattie's failure to say how much had been netted by the sale, the Shadow Industry Secretary, Mr John Smith, suggested the Government was ashamed to name a figure because of growing public awareness that they were selling off the furniture to pay the rent.

Some 55 per cent of the shares on offer have been allocated to financial institutions, Mr Pattie confirmed in his statement.

Mr Smith said that apparently only 2 per cent of the shares found their way to British Aerospace workers — "despite the Government's often professed intention that shares should go to employees."

But Mr Pattie replied: "I would have thought that 3 million shares applied for by the employees is actually a pretty satisfactory return."

LOCAL COUNCILS

Opening the doors

By Geoffrey Andrews

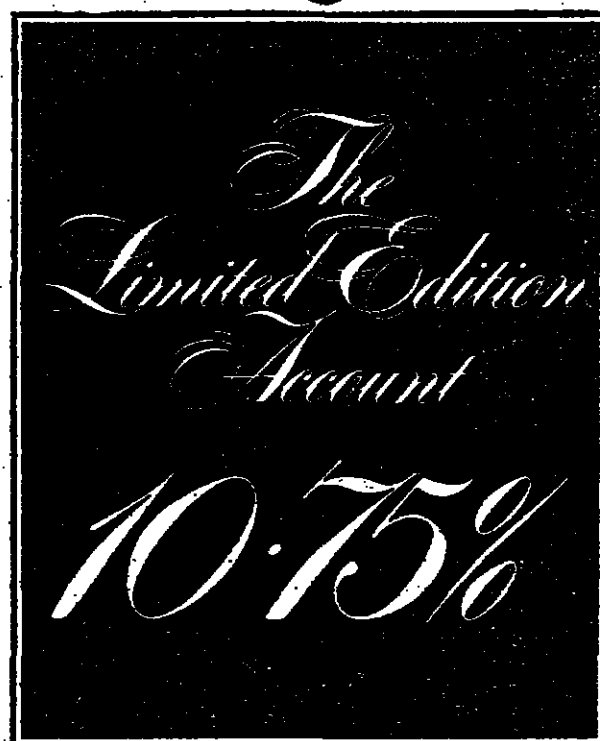
SECRET talks on the price of seats for the Sooty show, discussions on twinning with a foreign city and tree preservation in High Peak — all are being conducted away from the public because councils have no obligation to allow the public into sub-committee meetings.

In Bromley, Kent, that has also meant that four years of negotiations over the redevelopment of the centre of the town by the council in conjunction with Wimpey has also been decided in sub-committee meetings where local ratepayers are excluded but representatives of the developers are not.

This is just part of the background to a Private Member's bill due for its Third Reading in the House of Commons this Friday, backed by a file on thousands of similar town hall committee meetings held in secret throughout the country.

But although the measure has the support of 200 backbench MPs of all parties its sponsor, Mr Bobin Squire (C, Hornchurch), said yesterday that he still feared that one or two MPs could oppose him on Friday and "allow hundreds of councils to continue like some kind of private club."

Presenting the results of a survey of several thousand county and district council committees throughout England and Wales, Mr Squire said he was cautiously optimistic that the bill would succeed because no large group of MPs was against it.



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PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY

PRIVATISATION

No rush by BAe men

ONLY about 2,500 of British Aerospace's 70,000-strong workforce have applied for shares in the Government's £550 million sell-off, the Information Technology Minister,

Cost of MX is boosted by 50pc

Washington: The air force, blaming budget cuts made by Congress, has revised the cost of each MX intercontinental ballistic missile upward by 50 per cent, Defense Week said in yesterday's edition.

The magazine said that the air force notified US congressional leaders last week that the estimated cost of producing each MX in fiscal 1985 would rise from \$79.3 million to \$119 million.

Defense Week said that the notification came in letters sent by the acting Air Force Secretary, Mr. E. C. Aldridge, to the House Speaker, Mr. Thomas O'Neill, a Democrat, and Senator Barry Goldwater, the Republican chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Federal law requires such notification whenever a Defense Department procurement cost estimate rises by more than 15 per cent.

Mr. Aldridge said that he raised the MX estimate on April 5, solely because Congress voted to procure 21 missiles in the fiscal year 1985 instead of the budgeted quantity of 40, the magazine said.

Defense Week quoted an unidentified air force spokesman as saying that "the difference in cost is the result of losing the benefits of economies of scale."

The magazine said that the air force has also increased by 12.3 per cent the estimated price tag for each MX built in fiscal 1985, which begins next October 1.

Each missile in this projected batch of 48 would cost \$68.2 million — less than the fiscal 1985 unit cost because, as more missiles are produced, bugs are eliminated from production and costs decline, according to the magazine.

But the air force spokesman was quoted as saying that this figure "will go up again" if, as expected, Congress trims the Administration's request for 48 down to somewhere between 12 and 21.

Meanwhile, the General Electric company pleaded guilty yesterday to defrauding the air force on a missile contract, and was fined \$1,040,000 and ordered to pay back \$500,000 in overpayments.

The company, the country's sixth largest defence contractor, admitted its employees altered time cards on a \$47 million contract to refurbish nuclear warheads on the Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missile. GE became the biggest defence contractor ever convicted in a criminal case.

On indictment on March 26, the company pleaded not guilty, but it said yesterday that it changed its plea after an employee admitted altering time cards. — AP/Reuter.

Besieged group hit with gas

Philadelphia: A police siege of the headquarters of the radical group, MOVE, erupted in gunfire that lasted for 90 minutes yesterday, after officers attacked the fortified house with water cannon and teargas.

There were no reports of injuries in the fusillade, which began after Police Commissioner Gregoire Sambor read an eviction notice to members of the back-to-nature group, whose lifestyle had prompted complaints from neighbours.

Members of the group refused to leave the house, and police released two high-pressure water streams from deluge cannons against the building. Gunfire then erupted from the first and second floors, and police responded with shots and teargas.

About 150 helmeted officers had surrounded the building on Sunday, taunted by occupants using a bullhorn to demand the release of nine comrades imprisoned in a shootout with the authorities seven years ago. Police evacuated 200 to 300 families overnight from a four-block area around the house. — AP.

Ortega on Paris visit

Paris: President Ortega of Nicaragua arrived in France yesterday to seek support against the US trade embargo. He will meet President Mitterrand, the Socialist Party Secretary, Mr. Lionel Jospin, and the Communist leader, Mr. Marchais.

France has made clear its opposition to the embargo. "Conflicts in Central America will not be resolved through military actions or economic measures, such as trade sanctions," the External Relations Ministry said.

The US Secretary of State, Mr. George Shultz, announced the embargo on May 1, on the eve of the seven-nation economic summit in Bonn. The move followed rejection by the US Congress for President Reagan's request for \$14 million in aid for anti-Sandinist rebels.

Party lead eroded in Italian regional battles, forecasts say

Communist power bid loses force after polls

From George Armstrong in Rome

The Communist Party appears to have slipped from its perch as the largest party in Italy in local elections which ended yesterday.

According to early projections, the party — which overtook the Christian Democrats for the first time in the European Parliament elections last year — will get 30.1 per cent of the vote. This would be 1.4 per cent down on the last local elections five years ago and more than 4 per cent fewer than in the European vote.

This means that the party, which took a 0.3 per cent lead in the European elections, seems to have failed in its effort to outpoll the Christian Democrats and seek a role in the national coalition government.

Collectively, the government parties — Christian Democrats, Socialists, Social Democrats, Republicans and Liberals — are forecast to take 58.3 per cent of the vote, just under 2 per cent down on their showing in 1980.

Christian Democratic fears of being overtaken by the Communists had grown since the European elections. Attributed to sympathy over the death of the popular party leader, Enrico Berlinguer, just before the election, the Communists had said that if it was repeated

this time they would ask for a mandate to try to form a government.

A prediction by the Doxa opinion research centre issued 48 hours after polls closed in the two-day election showed the five parties in the coalition Government still holding a joint lead.

The Socialist Prime Minister, Mr. Bettino Craxi, has warned that a poor showing by the Government in the elections could threaten its existence. But political commentators said this danger now seemed to have disappeared. The forecast said the Christian Democrats would gain 34.8 per cent of the votes, down from 36.8 per cent five years ago, and the Socialists would take 13.5 per cent, up from 12.7 per cent, in voting for new councils in 15 of Italy's 20 regions.

A Social Democrat leader said last night: "The important thing is that the five-party coalition has emerged unscathed."

The Socialist Vice-Secretary, Mr. Claudio Martelli, said: "We see a double victory. We are very pleased about our party's result and satisfied with the result of the government as a whole."

For the first time, there is a Green list party and the forecast says it may get 2 per cent of the vote, which would make it the same size as the long-established Liberal Party.

Kohl has to answer for vote disaster

From Anna Tomforde in Bonn

The disastrous showing of Chancellor Kohl's CDU in the North Rhine-Westphalia elections on Sunday, and the land that is a turning point for West German politics.

Although setbacks are not uncommon at half-term for ruling parties, the 7 per cent losses suffered by the Christian Democrats, and the withdrawal of support by such voter groups as farmers and pensioners, are a clear signal for the conservative-liberal Bonn coalition that the vote is not prepared to pay with unemployment for vague promises of an economic recovery.

The result also showed that the average voter — there are 12.6 million of them in North Rhine-Westphalia — remains fairly unimpressed by economic summit spectacles and grand political gestures as long as the trend of rising unemployment and growing environmental destruction is not halted.

Chancellor Kohl conceded that unemployment of 2.3 million is the Government's biggest problem, and he said that his party had to do some hard thinking about why half-a-million of its voters stayed at home on Sunday, and a further 250,000 went straight to the Social Democrats in the highly industrialised and densely populated state.

He put on a brave face, saying that once people had understood that sacrifices were needed before recovery could make itself felt, the CDU would have a good chance in the general election in February 1987.

But there can be no doubt that for many inside the CDU the defeat came as the last straw after a string of blunders and political failures. The Chancellor must have been particularly stung by the immediate rebuke from the CDU leader, Mr. Franz Josef Strauss, who put the blame for the "earthquake" in the Ruhr on to Dr Kohl's shoulders.

Commentators predicted that pressure on the Chancellor and CDU leader to be replaced before the next election would now rise.

The emergence of a clear Social Democrat challenger for the chancellorship, the alert and popular North Rhine-Westphalian premier, Mr. Johannes Rau, will compound Dr Kohl's problems.

The veteran SPD leader, Mr. Willy Brandt, made clear yesterday that Mr Rau was being considered "a front-line candidate" for both the chancellorship and the succession in federal party leadership.

Although it may not be entirely justified on grounds of political content, the Social Democrats are also deriving great comfort from the failure of the environmentalist Green Party to win any seats in North Rhine-Westphalia, the second severe setback for the Greens within three months.

Leader comment, page 10

\$3.7m Le Monde rescue plan

Paris: Mr. André Fontaine, editor-in-chief of the financial newspaper Le Monde, yesterday announced a rescue plan involving 10 per cent wage cuts and the loss of 250 jobs.

Journalists said he intended to raise money by selling the newspaper's building, a move which angered staff when presented by his predecessor, Mr. André Laurens.

Mr. Fontaine, whose capital is about \$50,000, has been losing readers and advertising since 1982 and has debts of \$9.4 million.

Mr. Fontaine told staff that

up to \$3.7 million of outside capital would be injected and 330 new shares created, with 25 per cent of the shares in the new company structure being offered to outside investors.

In the new structure, the editorial staff will hold 30 per cent of the shares, compared with 40 per cent at present. Mr. Fontaine himself, 6 per cent, as against 11 per cent now. Editorial staff will thus lose their majority.

Thirty per cent will go to a few traditional shareholders, and the remainder to whom Mr. Hubert Beuve-Méry, founder of the respected daily, soon after taking over in

January. Mr. Fontaine stressed that new capital would only be sought on condition that Le Monde's independence was not threatened and that outside shareholders were a minority.

Executives and office workers have agreed to salary cuts, and editorial staff have until tomorrow to agree to be prepared to be laid off. All shareholders will meet at the end of the month to vote on the wage cuts and proposed new company structure.

Unions have asked for the decision on wage cuts to be delayed until the end of the month. — Reuter.

Paris: The former President, Mr. Giscard d'Estaing, will try to halt the publication of memoirs by the Central African Emperor, Jean-Bedel Bokassa.

His lawyer, Mr. Herve Cren, said he was taking legal action against the book, Ma Verite, because it contained "extraneous, mad, and even grotesque" passages about the former President.

He treats the French President like a gang-leader, a petty gangster, Mr. Cren said.

Ban sought on book

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Shultz 'passes' on the naming of negotiators

PLO leader warns against Hussein confederation plan

Tunis: King Hussein of Jordan is ready to declare a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation whose government would negotiate an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory, a top PLO official said here yesterday.

But Mr Salah Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, second in command to Mr Yasser Arafat in the biggest PLO grouping, Fatah, said also that it would be a mistake for the PLO to go along with such a move.

"King Hussein is ready to announce the setting up of a (Jordanian-Palestinian) confederation now," he said. But this would go against decisions taken by the Palestine National Council (the PLO parliament-in-exile).

The announcement of a confederation would mean the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian government, he said.

"I am convinced that it is this confederal government which will carry out negotiations over the head of the PLO," Mr Arafat and King Hussein signed an accord in February envisaging a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation after a UN-sponsored international Middle East peace conference.

Abu Iyad stressed that such a confederation was only possible after negotiations were concluded for the setting up of an independent Palestinian state in land now occupied by Israel, which could then be confederated with Jordan.

The Arafat-Hussein agreement called for an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip which were occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

Abu Iyad said that King Hussein had proposed the immediate establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation during talks with the PLO on the February accord signed in Amman.

The idea was rejected then, but the Jordanian monarch was now actively planning once more to declare the confederation before international peace talks, he said.

Western diplomatic sources said that the formation of a provisional Jordanian-Palestinian government would seriously weaken the role of the PLO.

Mr Arafat has, in the past, opposed setting up a Palestinian government-in-exile, saying it could reduce the PLO's flexibility and make it prey to stronger governments.

Since PLO guerrillas were forced to leave Beirut in 1982, the movement has been effectively split by a rebellion, division and supporters, and pro-Syrian factions based in Damascus.

The PLO is currently seeking to start a dialogue with the US in the framework of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. But Israel refuses to talk with a delegation that includes PLO members.

Poll will free reforms

From Ian Black in Jerusalem

The Labour Alignment is expected to maintain its traditional commanding majority in elections yesterday to Israel's Histadrut, the country's giant labour federation.

The election is of limited value in indicating national political trends, but a good showing for Labour will make it easier for the Prime Minister and Labour leader, Mr Shimon Peres, to push through badly needed reforms to deal with runaway inflation and a huge foreign-debt.

Last night, it was clear that a dull and lacklustre campaign had taken its toll: only 40 per cent of the 1.5 million eligible voters had turned out with three hours to go before the polls closed. First results are expected early today.

The election is of special interest because it is being held under the first bipartisan national unity government in Israeli history. But its chief significance is that it has delayed implementation of crucial economic measures for several months.

The Labour Alignment now holds 62 per cent of the seats in the Histadrut's policy-making convention, as against 26 per cent for the Likud. Opinion polls earlier this week predicted that Labour would get between 61 and 70 per cent of seats.

With 66 per cent, or two-thirds of the vote, the Alignment will have the power to amend by-laws and prevent the Likud from bringing motions before the executive.

Whatever the result, the Labour federation is expected to continue its conditional support for the package deal system of solving economic problems and its struggle to maintain real wages and employment. A big vote for the Alignment candidate and present secretary general, Mr Yasser Kessar, is likely to produce a stronger and more coherent policy.

The dullness of the campaign, which has been described as a phoney war, is attributed to the unwillingness of Labour and Likud to create unnecessary tension between them before either is ready to break up the unity government.

Only a very high result for Labour—70 per cent or more—seems likely to tempt Mr Peres into going to the country. Anything less would be worth the risk of a costly and destructive campaign that could result in a deadlock similar to the one that forced the creation of the unity government last September.

Jerusalem admits to smuggling charges

From Michael White in Washington

The prospect of a serious diplomatic rift between Israel and the United States about the illegal smuggling of 80 krypton-timing devices whose nuclear bombs — seems unlikely despite a federal grand jury investigation which is now drawing to a close in Los Angeles.

The State Department offered no formal confirmation yesterday that such an investigation was taking place for fear of jeopardising any subsequent prosecution. But customs officials privately confirmed the "neutral" claim in a Newweek report, and the Israeli embassy in Washington admitted that a "certain quantity of switches had been transferred" to Israel between 1979 and 1983.

Given the US's notorious sensitivity to attempts to circumvent its nuclear-nonproliferation regulations, the Israelis, in a statement from Jerusalem, emphasised that no kryptons had been re-exported and that those already used in defence-related industries were for "research and development of conventional weapons systems only."

The Israelis are not admitting any government link and are cooperating with the US Customs and Justice Department's inquiries. An Israeli entrepreneur, Arnon Milchan, is mentioned by Newweek.

Though he denied any knowledge of the affair and said he had no recent links with the firm that bears his name in Tel Aviv.

The consensus on the intelligence community is that Israel has possessed nuclear weapons since around 1968, although nothing more than the capability to produce them quickly if needed has ever been admitted in the turbulent climate of the Middle East.

Israel's motive for secrecy is partly attributable to the need to remain sufficiently ambiguous for Washington to overlook her nuclear capability when considering conventional military aid.

What seems certain is that if the Los Angeles grand jury comes up with an indictment of someone within jurisdiction of the US courts in the next few weeks, then the pressure will be considerable to use the full penalties under the Export Control Act.

The State Department is still smug about a 1984 case in which a Pakistani businessman, Mr Nazir Ahmed Vaid, was accused of smuggling 80 kryptons out of Houston airport.

Considerable evidence linked him to official sources, and the State Department wanted prosecutions. But poor communications supposedly resulted in the trial judge not grasping the serious nuclear nature of the offence, and Mr Vaid was merely deported.

Pentagon balks at British contract for Oman bases

From Mark Tran in Washington

The prospects of a maintenance contract being awarded to a British firm to work on three US-built bases in Oman may be in jeopardy because of opposition in the US.

The firm, Alwork Ltd, had been selected by the US Air Force, which is now conducting a final internal review before the award of the contract. The Pentagon passed this off as normal procedure, but the deal seems more complicated than that.

The \$50 million contract was given to Alwork at the insistence of Sultan Qaboos bin Said, master of the sultanate of Oman, and an American company, Capital Hill. As one Republican congressman, Mr William Whitehurst, complained, the contract was supposed to be open to competitive bidding. But the sultan put his foot down and decided to give the work to a British company.

The Pentagon reluctantly agreed, since it wants to hang on to these bases as strategic gateways to US companies and of Hormuz.

But US companies who have been bidding for the contract, which may ultimately be worth \$2 billion, are howling in protest, and the matter, according to the columnist Jack Anderson, is being held up pending an inter-agency review.

The matter has been further complicated, says Mr Anderson, by demands from the Omanis and their British advisers for complete access to the bases where classified material is stored. Moreover, the British office in charge of the sultan's forces, Lt-Gen. John Watts, has reportedly insisted that the civilian contractor report directly to the Sultanate of Oman Air Force. It is not clear whether he would report to the Americans at all.

Iraq 'plans attack' on Kurds

By Helen Graham

The Iraqi Government is moving troops and police units to the north of the country in what look like preparations for an offensive against the Kurdish Democratic Party.

The moves, which have involved the transfer of a brigade from the central front and the dispatch of 7,000 paramilitary police, have been paralleled by a build-up of Turkish troops on the side of the border.

The kind of joint operation may be in prospect.

At the same time, unofficial Syrian sources say that Turkish troops have been massing on the Syrian-Turkish border.

While Syria has in theory signed an anti-Kurdish agreement with the Turks in practice

the Damascus is thought to be very unhappy at recent events, while the Syrian army is tied down in Lebanon.

A concerted Turkish-Iraqi attack on Kurdish bases in the north would be felt as much by the 50,000 Kurdish refugees who have sought refuge in this "liberated" area.

Both armies have shown themselves to be ruthless towards the Kurdish population.

The Turks have an agreement with the Iraqi Government which allows them to cross the border into Iraq for a specified distance. Brief incursions took place in 1983 and 1984 against Kurdish guerrillas.

The Turkish objective may be limited this time to controlling the border area, preventing collaboration between their own Kurdish guerrillas and Iraqi Kurdish insurgents, and, in particular, safeguarding the pipeline which is so vital to their economy.

The civil war in northern Iraq has flared up fiercely since negotiations for Kurdish autonomy with Baghdad ceased at the beginning of this year. Nearly a third of the Kurdish areas are now no longer under government control.

In the past few days, Patriotic Union of Kurdistan — the other main Kurdish guerrilla organisation — has reported heavy fighting with the Iraqi army in the region of Kirkuk, an important oil city three hours from Baghdad.

PUK claims that a battle against a brigade of the Iraqi army left 180 Iraqi soldiers killed and 200 wounded.

Heartless pirates throw mother, child into sea

From Ian Guest in Geneva

Thirty-three Vietnamese boat people have drowned or are missing and 13 women have been kidnapped, after a series of unusually brutal pirate attacks in the Gulf of Thailand.

The attacks, which took place between the middle of February and early this month, have been reported to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as it prepares for a meeting here to extend its anti-piracy programme, launched three years ago.

Twelve Western donor governments, including Britain, are expected to attend the May 22 meeting, where the UNHCR will recommend that \$2.7 million should be spent on the programme this year, down on last year's \$3.6 million.

According to the reports, five refugee boats carrying a total of 155 refugees were attacked by pirates — assumed to be Thai fishermen — in an alarming surge in piracy at a time when it seemed to be on the wane because of more vigorous action by Thai authorities.

Last year, 61 refugees were killed by pirates, compared to 70 in 1983, and 110 boat women were raped, against 152 in 1983.

In the worst of the recent incidents, a boat which left Vietnam on February 18 with 22 refugees on board was attacked the following day by pirates who seized two young women and stole two engines before ramming the refugee boat, splitting it in two. Eighteen refugees drowned, one by one, as they slipped off the wreckage, and only one survived.

In another incident on March 30, pirates attacked a boat carrying 17 refugees, after they were transferred to the pirate boat and given food, seven were then thrown overboard, including a young Vietnamese woman and her two-year-old daughter.

The 12 donors have already agreed in principle to extend the anti-piracy programme, and the new reports will undoubtedly add to their concern. But at the same time, the attacks also raise worrying questions about the efficiency of the programme, which mainly involves

patrols by the Thai navy and air force.

Last year, the Thais are reported to have arrested 32 fishermen and charged them with various crimes — but not murder. That authorities have already identified two of the pirate boats involved in the latest attacks and made two arrests.

Reuter adds from Hong Kong: Mr Paul Hartling, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, yesterday called on Britain to take the initiative in solving Hong Kong's Vietnamese refugee problem by accepting more for resettlement. Britain has only taken four refugees so far this year.

Mr Hartling, who arrived from China, was speaking after touring one of the colony's seven "closed" refugee camps where almost 6,000 Vietnamese live as virtual prisoners. Closed camps were set up in 1982 to deter would-be refugees from entering Hong Kong.

Since the Vietnam war ended in 1975, about 110,000 refugees have arrived here. Britain took just over 12,000, the US 80,000 and Canada just under 17,000.

US holds Sikhs in murder plot

From Eric Silver in New Delhi and Reuter in Washington

The US Federal Bureau of Investigation yesterday announced it had thwarted a plot by Indian Sikhs to assassinate the Indian Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, during his visit to the United States in June.

The FBI said that seven individuals were arrested for a wide range of offences after the FBI broke up the plot.

The FBI director, Mr William Webster, also said that the Sikhs were planning to assassinate Bhajan Lal, the chief minister of the Indian state of Haryana, while he was visiting the US.

Mr Webster said that the FBI "determined that a group of Sikhs were plotting the assassination of chief minister Bhajan Lal... and planning guerrilla-type operations against the government of India. In addition, they were plotting to assassinate Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, during his pending visit to the US in June."

The Government is to introduce tough new measures this week in response to the wave of bombings that killed about 80 people in Delhi and three neighbouring states at the weekend. They are expected to include stiffer penalties for possessing unauthorised arms and explosives, as well as greater freedom of operation for the army and police.

The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, announced the emergency legislation during an angry parliamentary debate yesterday, which took place against the backdrop of a strike that severely disrupted business activity in the capital.

Blacks to honour dead leader

From Patrick Laurence in Johannesburg

IN A demonstration of their growing power, 500,000 black workers are expected to pay tribute today to Mr Andries Biko, the trade union leader who died of brain injuries shortly after being released from police custody.

Timed to coincide with Mr Biko's funeral, their tribute will come in the form of a stay-away from the whole day, as urged by the Federation of South African Trade Unions, or a two-hour work stoppage as called for by the Council of Unions of South Africa.

The dead trade unionist will be buried in the East Rand township of Tsakane. The East Rand, appropriately, is an area where trade unionism is strong.

Mr Biko was an executive member of Fosatu, which may account for its decision to press for a full day's stay-away rather than the original Cusa-announced call for a two-hour work stoppage.

Fosatu is organising the funeral, and its president, Mr Chris Dlamini, will be a keynote speaker. The speaker of the Chemical Workers Industrial Union, Mr Calvin Makgale, will deliver a funeral oration.

Fosatu's summons received additional impetus yesterday when it was backed by the United Democratic Front and its 600 affiliates, including the South African Allied Workers Union and the General Workers Union. But Cusa yesterday stuck to its initial call for a two-hour stoppage.

The protest strike is certain to be the biggest manifestation of worker power and its continuing emergence as a political force since the stay-away by 300,000 black workers in the Transvaal last November.

The unions have appealed to employers for understanding of worker anger and grief at Mr Biko's death. The employer response had been general understanding, they said.

One of the most positive reactions came from Dr Johan van Zyl, the chief executive of the Federated Chamber of Industries, who said: "We would like to appeal to our members to make such expression (of grief) possible."

Violence and arson continued in townships nationwide at the weekend, and police said that seven more people had died since Friday. They also reported that they were investigating the death of a man fatally shot while in police custody.



Play pen: A Vietnamese child gazes through the wire of a Hong Kong refugee camp

Bombing wave rocks New Caledonian 'powder keg'

Nonamee: Three bomb blasts within six hours rocked the capital of the French Pacific territory of New Caledonia last night, blowing a hole in the Court of Justice, sinking a yacht in the marina, and damaging the entrance to a Melanesian high school.

The school blast injured four people — none seriously — and damaged nearby flats. The bomb at the court, set under the state prosecutor's office, smashed windows and blew a hole about a yard wide in the wall. No one was hurt.

The central court blast was clearly audible in the city centre and plumes of smoke spiralled up from the building.

Vanloaders of the French CRS riot police sped to the scene through streets deserted because of a curfew.

The blast at the marina took place about 30 minutes before the attack on the court. Police said the explosions were probably caused by dynamite.

A motorist was seen planting a box at the school entrance just before the explosion, police said.

After the explosion, police cordoned off the area around the school.

A small explosion slightly damaged the school at the beginning of March, but there

were no injuries. No one claimed responsibility for that blast.

Witnesses said fighting broke out in a crowd which gathered around the school.

More than 20 people have died in clashes over independence and the Kanak separatist leader, Mr Jean-Marie Tjibaou, has warned that there could be a full-scale race conflict in the territory.

Shortly before the blast, a French High Commission spokesman had warned: "We're sitting on a powder keg. It's still very explosive."

— Reuter/AP.

Assembly opens

Seoul: After delays of more than a month because of political wrangling, a new South Korean National Assembly, including a militant opposition, was convened yesterday.

In an address to the session, President Chun called for stability and unity, along with "selfless dialogue" aimed at settling all issues reasonably.

The new assembly was picked in elections on February 12, and the ruling Democratic Justice Party, headed by Mr Chun, retained a comfortable majority.

One of the issues that delayed the opening of the assembly from early April centred on opposition demands that Mr Kim Dae Jung's civil rights be restored fully.

Another opposition demand linked with Kim Dae Jung's future was that for the release of all so-called prisoners of conscience.

Another sensitive issue is the Government's recent confiscation of books and other printed material

Troops 'massacre' Afghan civilians

Islamabad: Afghan refugees crossing the border into Pakistan have reported killings of civilians during a Soviet offensive in Laghman province last month.

Their accounts backed up earlier reports that several hundred people had been killed in Garghail district, between Kabul and Jalalabad, in eastern Afghanistan.

The refugees recounted grisly scenes as Soviet units bayoneted, burned, and shot women, children, and old men. The Russians were also said to have looted houses and raped.

The incidents, which took place in April, appeared to be part of a wider trend towards terror tactics used by Soviet units in Afghanistan.

Western diplomats here said on April 30 that reports of Soviet atrocities rose sharply last month, as reports came from Laghman, the northern province of Kunduz and Samangan, and Herat, near the Iranian border.

Their frequency gave envoys the impression that the Soviet

army had escalated its effort to depopulate villages along routes used by guerrillas returning to fight in Afghanistan. "Many families lost most of their members," said Gul Jaleghai, north-west of Jalalabad.

Sahar Gul, the village mullah in Deh Mazang, said that he buried about 150 bodies himself before fleeing to Pakistan.

Most of them were so dismembered they could only go around collecting parts and burying them," he said.

Ghulam Sahki, aged 70, said that he and over 100 other old men were used as a shield by the troops, who marched them ahead of the soldiers when entering a village.

The commander of the Islamic fundamentalist party, Hezb-e-Islami, in Laghman, Sana Gul, said that guerrillas had taken over several dozen Afghan government posts last winter in the area leading to the strategic Panjshir valley, further north, and the embattled Kumar valley to the east.

— Reuter.

Koran ban thrown out

New Delhi: A High Court judge yesterday dismissed a petition calling for a ban on the Koran, the Muslim holy book, after protests about the case in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

The petition, filed by two Hindu Indians in Calcutta High Court, provoked violent demonstrations in Bangladesh and a furious reaction from the Pakistan Government.

Crowds also took to the streets of Srinagar, capital of India's mainly Muslim northern state of Jammu and Kashmir, throwing stones at traffic and shops.

The suit said the Koran should be banned because it preached hatred and violence and was inimical to the country's majority religion, Hinduism.

Nigeria's aliens break out

By Michael Simmons

TENS of thousands of illegal aliens being held by Nigerian authorities in a transit camp near Lagos airport broke out yesterday and headed for the Benin frontier more than 100 miles away.

Cheering, chanting, and waving, the immigrants drove off in a makeshift convoy of lorries, buses and cars. The convoy, thought to be made up of hundreds of vehicles, forced police hastily to dismount a roadblock.

Riot police on duty near the camp could only stand by and watch, as they had no orders to stop the mass break-out.

The exodus was triggered as the immigrants' anger boiled over. Most are tired, hungry and destitute, and many are Ghanaians, who are unwilling to go home by sea, as Nigeria wants. There were ugly scenes earlier as police fired teargas at crowds who had been attacking them with stones and bottles.

In similar clashes at the weekend, five police were injured. Most are tired, hungry and destitute, and many are Ghanaians, who are unwilling to go home by sea, as Nigeria wants. There were ugly scenes earlier as police fired teargas at crowds who had been attacking them with stones and bottles.

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At 35 and after 15 years of marriage and four children, Catherine Mitchell left home to live as a lesbian. Ronit Lentin reports

How the daily lie gave way to a lonely life of truth

CATHERINE MITCHELL is a reluctant lesbian. Her story is one of someone who has struggled constantly to come to terms with her sexuality and even after leaving her comfortable home and marriage — to live the life of a lesbian rather than the lie — she still has great doubts.

Eighteen months ago, after ten years of sneaking from home to the comfort of lesbian disco, Catherine summoned the courage to leave husband and home.

"Being lesbian was a gradual realisation," she said. "When it started to occur to me I may be lesbian it was frightening. For a long period my husband and I even joked about it, but it kept surfacing, causing me great pain."

At first Catherine had other problems. She married at 20, having become pregnant in her second year at university. "It wasn't that I didn't want to get married, but I was exchanging the crumbling stability of home with the

false stability of marriage." Then she had four children. "I liked having children and was a thorough mother. I still am, but at the beginning I was doing a lot of growing up alongside the children."

At the beginning of her marriage she suffered from severe depression and recurring suicide attempts. "There was always an inequality about my marriage. My husband was always coping while I was always on the verge of throwing myself outside the bedroom window. By the time the relationship became more equal, I had discovered, or rather decided, that I'd better stop waiting around for a certificate confirming me as a lesbian and come out."

Her apparent frailty belies the great strength it took to make the decision to leave home. Having had a nice husband made it harder. "It makes me feel I am looking for trouble, choosing unhappiness and loneliness."

Five years ago Catherine had a good relationship with a woman who also had children and lived at home with a "nice" husband, but the relationship did not last. When she told her mother she was leaving home, her mother's reaction was typical. "She said I was crazy to leave such a lovely man and opt for loneliness. She doesn't know why I left but she may suspect she asked whether I had gone off men altogether."

The sad thing is that life as a member of the lesbian community does not appeal to Catherine Mitchell. "Disliking them is almost like disliking myself," she says. "I know I will have to work on it, but I am very unsatisfied with the terrible loneliness lesbians suffer and with the difficulties women have living together, not only emotionally but also from the point of view of money and housing."

"There is no support for lesbians. We cannot even walk down the street arm in

arm. People recognise us for what we are and never smile on us the way they smile on married couples. Even these small comforts are denied us. Lesbians are totally invisible."

She is concerned about the fleeting nature of lesbian relationships. "Relationships don't last because being a lesbian is so insecure, so difficult. With other lesbians there is always the danger of game playing, of trying out someone else for the night."

She would like to see lesbians being really good to each other, really aware of each other's needs not merely dancing cheek to cheek. "There is an air of desperation about the lesbian community," she says. "Some lesbian couples I know are under terrible stress — and they are the honest ones. Others don't even admit the strains."

Catherine's husband, like so many husbands of married lesbians who come out, did

not take her sexuality seriously. "He always made out that he was willing to live with me, knowing I was lesbian. But living with him would have meant full sexual relations and I couldn't agree. He thought lesbianism was only another of my notions." In moments of despair, Catherine can imagine going back to live with her husband, "because I am so used to him, because he looked after me for such a long time and because we had good times together."

Although he had originally said he didn't mind about her involvement with other women ("being involved with another man would have been much worse"), he ended up finding it very threatening. "He knew he could not begin to compete. He could not hope to win me back by the same methods as before."

Over the last few years Catherine Mitchell has established herself at work and life seems a more stable base. She has told one person

at work but otherwise she keeps her sexuality to herself.

This interview was the first time Catherine spoke of coming out. "I still feel very shaky," she says. "My irrational fear is that I would lose the children. My husband and I have joint custody and I believe he is genuine about it, but I am afraid that if they found out they'd reject me. We are a very comfortably middle-class family and being lesbian is definitely beyond the pale. Apart from this, what woman is going to be able to fit into my life with the four of them around?"

"It's impossible for lesbians not to live in the clouds," Catherine says. She spent ten years dreaming how wonderful it would be to have a relationship with a woman, but so far, all her relationships have been short lived.

She doesn't see herself fitting into the lesbian stereotype. "I didn't fit into the heterosexual wife stereotype. I

used to look from the outside when we spent time with other married couples and now I look from the outside on the lesbian scene. You do need the support of other like-minded people but I cannot imagine what sort of a partner I would have."

Recently she was involved with a woman from abroad. "She left just recently and I am still moaning the failure. The sex was wonderful — inadequate in my marriage. I was thrilled, but for her a relationship based on good sex was not enough."

Catherine Mitchell is still ambivalent about being lesbian. "On the one hand I want to shout it from the rooftops but on the other I feel terribly secretive and frightened. As long as I feel secretive, I know there is a sense in which I am not accepting my sexuality. I cannot stop thinking of all the people who are close to me and how threatening my being a lesbian could be for them."

THE UGLY SISTER

A HOTEL bedroom. A woman speaking on the telephone. She says: "This is me."

"Where've you been? What's happened?" a man asks.

"No, don't ask. I rang to tell you I'm not coming back. It's all over."

"What do you mean? Where are you? Are you with someone?"

"It's no good. It's all over. I'm not coming back. Don't try to make me. I don't want to see you again, do you hear me?"

"At least come home and we'll talk it over. You owe me that, at least," he says.

"There's no point. We can't talk. That's the whole trouble. All these years and it's always been the same. We can't talk. There's nothing going to change that now."

"Is there someone else?"

"That's not the point. It's us. We just can't communicate, and I can't live like that any more. Two people who can't talk to each other."

"But why did you go off like that? I don't understand. We've always been able to talk, of course we have," he says.

"No, we've never been able to communicate. Not communicate. I've always tried to talk to you, but properly, but we never really communicated. That's why you still don't understand me. You don't know me at all. We've never discussed the things that really matter, not really talked about them," she says.

"I don't believe this. I've always made a point of talking to you. I've always asked your opinion on anything important. We talked it over, every time. Things like the children's health, and what kind of house we should live in and who to have to dinner and which tie I should wear to go to meetings with the chairman."

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Michael Simmons meets Ann Hercus, a late starter in politics but now a minister in New Zealand's Labour government and bearing a formidable collection of responsibilities

Minister with a packed portfolio

branch of the Society for Research on Women. I kept hearing people say: 'Does the Government take any notice.'

"This mattered, and particularly to a Scottish Presbyterian like myself. I don't like to see things or people wasted," she said.

Though she was a late political starter, she is a natural politician the way some people are natural athletes. To which one should add that she is also an accomplished sportswoman.

"I bring the same values to all three of my portfolios. I also love the work. They'll have to prime me out of a pneumatic drill if they want me to go," she said.

In all, her responsibilities cover roughly 30 per cent of the national budget. Reforms she has already initiated include earlier retirement for the police, a new family allowance scheme, and the setting up of a brand new "small but high-powered" Department of State to deal with women's affairs.

She sits on five cabinet committees, whose briefs range from foreign policy, through social equity, to terrorism.

"With the police," she declares with a smile, "I am enormously popular..."

That is a reference to the early retirement programme. The smile vanishes when she speaks of the rugby riots of 1981, which alienated the people from their police and family members from one another over whether or not the Springboks should be allowed to play on New Zealand soil. Hundreds were arrested and many hurt in the violence brought on by the demonstrations.

"For the first time in our history we had New Zealanders pitted against New Zealanders, with the police and their long batons in the middle. It left a bad taste about the police."

More demonstrations are expected in the next few weeks when an England team arrives to play a New Zealand side which has set its heart on touring South Africa in August.

Ann Hercus has secured extra funds (about £15 million) to police these demos, but she will also be marching at their head alongside David Lange himself. She knows about rugby; her brother was an All Black.

In social services, she is giving priority to children's needs. She aims to set up what she calls a "very pleasant jigsaw" of homes in the community for those needing special care, and to close down what "institutions" she can. Children's rights are increasingly

an issue she looks forward to grappling with.

For the country's women, for whom she has actively and publicly campaigned for almost 20 years, the new government is a breath of fresh air. Statistically New Zealand's women are stronger for Labour than their men-folk: keener on the anti-nuclear stance; more vociferous against apartheid; as well as the more familiar feminist issues.

But many remain timid about their rights. There are still women who consult their husbands on voting intentions who follow their husbands in their thinking about social issues. There is still a lot of conservatism, with a small c, in the "average" New Zealander.

The new Ministry of Women's Affairs she is moulding will therefore have its work cut out. Women's meetings held on Labour Party issues, and last year's election showed surprising unanimity on what priorities should be, and this knowledge, coupled with a knowledge of how legislation is framed, has helped in shaping the new department.

It will be in two parts — one part monitoring and initiating policies, including government policies, from the woman's point of view. The other part, socially more exciting, will be both outreach and inreach, "taking issues of government concern to women to get their views — at local meetings, through radio phone-ins in every way that is feasible." "We want," she says, "to be as responsive as possible to their needs."

In all this activity, she backs, and is backed by, David Lange one hundred per cent. She throws herself wholeheartedly into her work, her chief worry, if she has one, being the effect on her sons. Both, with her husband, will campaign for her if and when the next election comes. So, too, will her "non-political" parents, now in their seventies. "They will toddle around," she says, "and they will deliver. With one child an All Black and another a Cabinet Minister, they haven't done badly."

Information that could help the victim of a mugger

LETTERS

I READ Lisa Spry-Leverson's article. This is no way to treat a victim. I was on the London underground on route to a meeting at the DHSS in South-east London. Within four minutes of tucking the Guardian into my brief case, I also was the victim of a violent assault. In this case, the good looking young man wanted my money. When I took the opposite view, our physical disagreement left me dirty, bleeding, bruised and penniless, ten miles from home.

I have no complaints about the kindness of passers-by, the people I was meeting at the DHSS, the police. But, like Lisa Spry-Leverson, I realised the enormous private pain and suffering in being robbed in this way. I felt loss of face at being a victim. I was street-wise, canny — so I thought I know I

will look over my shoulder, shrink at any sudden contact for years to come.

But I also think, in retrospect, things can be done. Why has nobody produced a simple leaflet to be available in every police station, outpatient department, citizens advice bureau or indeed any place to which people come in distress or for information on what to do if you have been attacked and robbed?

Simple information doesn't heal cuts or replace your lost confidence, but it does make life easier when a bump on the head makes any decision confusing. Equally most victims need some information on their likely feelings after an attack.

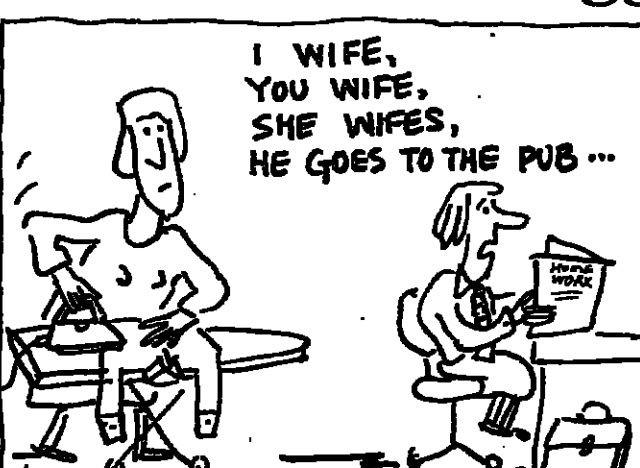
My Danish su pair showed me exactly what I should have done right at the first disastrous encounter. But she, like most of her peers, studied self-defence in school. Perhaps we should recognise the hazards and put martial arts (or at least creative

defence) much higher on the curriculum. Philippa Russell, London, N6.

Stand up for the nannies

IN HER article (April 30), Lindsay Mackie speaks glibly of an ideal world where there is collective childcare, parents' cooperatives, shorter working hours and flexible time for parents, thus eradicating the need for private child care.

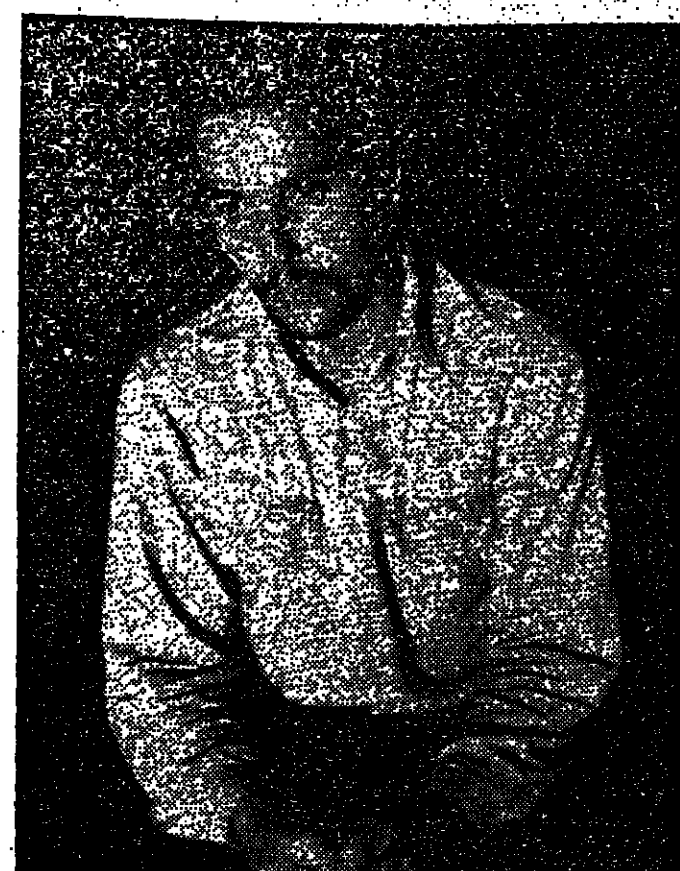
And what of the nannies? Should we close up this large source of employment for this group of independent and responsible young women who enjoy looking after children? No, indeed. Out with Ms Mackie's brand of parental chauvinism! In with nannies' cooperatives and nannies' collectives. Let them organise pay scales and conditions of work and be appreciated for the valuable work they do. — Yours sincerely, Maria Fitzgerald, London, WC1.



AS a nanny and a trade union member, I welcomed many of the points made in Lindsay Mackie's article about the pay and conditions of service of nannies, though of course nannies are not unique among women workers in terms of low status, low pay and poor conditions.

There are good and bad points in nannying, just as there are in journalism or hairdressing. The problem is that nannies, since

The child's agony in the Belly of the Beast



William Petersen as Jack Henry Abbott

JACK HENRY ABBOTT became a celebrity-criminal in 1961 with the publication of his book *The Belly of the Beast*. It consisted of letters written to Norman Mailer giving a horrendous portrait of prison life by a man who between the ages of 12 and 37 had spent all but nine months inside institutional walls.

Mailer and others got Abbott paroled and he was brought to a halfway-house in the Bowery. Then on July 18, 1961, Abbott and some friends went to a restaurant in New York's lower East Side. Abbott got into a fight with a 22-year-old actor-playwright, Richard Adair, who was working as a waiter and killed him with a knife. Abbott is now back inside maximum security prison in Marion, Illinois, serving a 15-year-life sentence for manslaughter.

Those are the stark facts behind a play, *In The Belly Of The Beast*, which director Robert Falls has adapted from Abbott's book and from court transcripts. It opened at Chicago's 200-seat Wisdom Bridge Theatre in September 1983 and got the kind of emotional notices (not least for its lead actor, William Petersen) you rarely read. It has since been endlessly reprised and tonight comes to Glasgow's Mayfest before transferring next week to the Lyric Studio as part of the American Festival. It then launches the Free Theatre (no payment for admission) which is part of Peter Sellers' new National Theatre project in Washington, DC.

Judgment on the piece must wait. But Falls himself, a tall, bearded man who positively overflows with enthusiasm, accepts my point that there may be a danger in mythologising Abbott. "I think there is a danger. The first thing that attracted me was the intellectual romanticism of Abbott, the way the media created him. Not only

What happened when Jack Abbott met Norman Mailer is now the subject of a controversial play opening tonight in Glasgow. Michael Billington reports

Mailer and his buddies but the whole New York literary scene.

"They would take him off to dinner at Joe Allen's or Elaine's and then go to their nice homes in their limos while Abbott would walk downtown to his halfway house. The way he became a toy and puppy to the literary intriguers and when I started I wanted to create a kaleidoscopic version of the Abbott story."

I did a lot of research and talked to an eyewitness of the restaurant killing whose account directly contradicts Abbott's. I also talked to one of the jurors who convinced me that, under the American system, you end up with a jury that is completely stupid since you're trying to find people who have no opinions.

"And the jurors told me there were amazing scenes where they all stripped off and paraded around in Adair's bloodstained t-shirt trying to work out how the murder happened. But in the end I cut all this material. What I've tried to do is draw the audience emotionally into Abbott's story and then allow them to pull back and analyse what they have felt."

Falls strenuously denies the charge (made in one Chicago magazine) that the production espouses Abbott's own belief that he had no choice in his actions. He claims the piece is neither saying "Poor Jack Abbott" nor indulging in Olympian judgments. He calls it "a meditation on the nature of violence" and an attempt to "raise consciousness."

"People in America refuse to acknowledge there is a penal system that doesn't work. It's simply somewhere we take animals off the street and throw them out of view which is very typical. I was a Chicago student in 1963 and I remember the way Mayor Daley boarded up all the slums for the Democratic Convention so that delegates would drive down the street unaware of their existence. In the same way people don't mind the stink of our prisons: the fact that they are inadequate, overcrowded, underfunded and producing more criminals than they deter."

"The play has done a lot. I hope, to open people's eyes; and that's why I'm excited to be going to Washington where we're going to make an effort to get senators and congressmen to see it. Some time ago a group of politicians went to New Mexico — which has one of the worst prison systems in the States — and spent two nights in the cells. They were horrified at the sounds, the smells and the sights and came out so shattered they said we must build new goals. If the play has an emotional impact it may change attitudes. I wouldn't do theatre unless I thought it could change people in some way."

Falls describes the play as an attempt to interpret a foreign culture and to penetrate the mystery of Abbott who combines the ability to study, analyse and write with the emotional life of a six-year-old.

He also tells a chilling story of Mailer's first meeting with Abbott: Mailer instinctively

embraced him but Abbott went completely stiff never in 20 years having had physical contact with another human being except through violence. But not only did Falls steep himself in the Abbott story: his lead actor William Petersen (about to become a movie-star with Friedkin's *To Live And Die In L.A.*) went to even greater lengths in the cause of total immersion.

"Bill," says Falls laughingly, "is very De Niroesque. I call him a cowboy actor because the more pain he feels physically when performing the piece the better he feels it's gone. But he did do a lot of intense research. He lost about 18lb for the role. And he locked himself inside a closet for 30 hours spending ten hours with the light-bulb on but just not let reach, and another ten in total darkness. He's very embarrassed about the way this is held up as an example of self-punishment since Abbott himself spent virtually two years in darkness. But this sort of immersion, even including working with a speech therapist to get the Abbott slutter right, generally yields the best performance."

This Methodical intensity is for me a symptom of the crucial difference between American and British approaches to theatre. And Falls backs it up with an unnerving story of how he, as a director, calculatedly attacked and abused an abused, playing Blanche Dubois in order to get her to reveal the character's vulnerability.

"She went screaming from the theatre crying. I ran after her and she kept hitting me and we kept rolling down the stairs of the Wisdom Bridge Theatre. I know if smacks of the worst kind of brutality and therapy but she knew what I was doing and that it was the working relationship that had to be got at. I hasten to add it's the only time I've ever done that."

Lucian Pintilie talks to Tom Sutcliffe

Rigoletto of Romania

WHAT'S so special about Romanians? Three of our leading opera companies have productions by Andrei Serban. The Welsh National Opera last week revealed that next season two of their five new shows will be produced by Lucian Pintilie, the expatriate Romanian now running the Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis. And tonight the Welsh unveil the follow-up to Lucian Pintilie's extraordinary WNO Carmen: a new Rigoletto that seems certain to provoke another bout of rage about producers interfering with beloved war-horses.

Pintilie, 52 this year, is scarcely an enfant terrible. At present he lives in France (with the leading Romanian actress, Claudia Berthola, Cluciei's ex-wife who is some years his senior). He has made four films, one in Yugoslavia, but his last has not yet been released in Romania. However, he has just got approval for a new film project, based on Chekhov's story, which means he'll be working in Romania again later this year.

Romanian cinema had a brief period of international fame in the Sixties, when the country managed to be a kind of bridge between east and west. Pintilie's first film, *Sunday Six O'Clock*, won nine international prizes, and Cluciei was best director at Cannes one year. Pintilie trained in the film and theatre department of the Bucharest Institute of Art, which also produced Serban, and went straight into television at 31. The diet then was exclusively Soviet classic films, and in the theatre the reigning influence was also Soviet: a sturdy naturalism with some great actors and realistic directors.

Then the Russians stopped coming, and suddenly all the visitors were Western: Strindberg, Peter Brook, Planchon and many others turned up in the theatre district. "It was a blitz of information," Pintilie says, "and it was answered by an explosion of young talent in the Romanian theatre who all found their feet at the same time." Scofield says, "You teach yourself. As you like it, and when Pintilie came to London three years later under a cultural exchange programme he found Scofield still remembered his performance."

It was that production, by Cluciei, that made the break with naturalism. "I don't believe in teachers," says Pintilie. "You teach yourself. But Cluciei was the first to introduce a new theatrical language. I am both more realist and more fantastical than he. But it was he who made the break with the past ways."

The liberalism of the Sixties did not last. In 1972 Pintilie did a production of Gogol's *The Government Inspector* which led to a confrontation with the authorities. He was asked to make certain changes. He refused. He went on hunger strike. There had been three previous hunger strikes in Romania. Normally I suppose one should do it in public, but I went home and didn't eat for five hours, and the Party met, and the performance went ahead that night without modification. But the following day the production was banned. He has not worked in Romanian theatre since, though he has no trouble coming and going from the country and working in the west.

Our interview followed a difficult session with Richard Armstrong, the Rigoletto conductor and WNO music director, who had been asking Pintilie to alter certain aspects of his production. Pintilie was adamant that he would never compromise,

though he would make changes if he was persuaded that what he was trying to do was wrong. "The more I dare, the better it will be, and when I don't dare to do too far with my obsession, my mockery, it's not good."

He regards questions of period and costume, viewed in isolation, as superficial. Many producers, he thinks, treat opera like a 50-year-old woman in need of a facelift: he, on the contrary, wants to inject new vitality, genuinely relevant.

"When I apply myself to the business of staging an opera, I do so profoundly, and I can't make bargains. For me compromise doesn't exist at all. When I do a show, I don't want to fill the spaces with the right colour for that old fellow which is the opera, to just look good. I want to do something more dangerous. But I swear I'm not provocative. I don't want to change the opera, but be faithful to what I think was never discovered."

He claims his Rigoletto, though not entirely achieved, has uncovered some truths in the grotesque elements and in the sentimentalism "of which" he admits he has ever spoken. He admits his radical approach can get things

wrong, can seem suicidal. But if he is engaged on the job, the company knows what to expect.

"When I did *The Magic Flute* I had read a letter of Mozart in which he told his father, 'All life is only a series of regards, of preparations for death.' I was profoundly touched by that phrase. *The Magic Flute*, I thought, is not trials for life but to be ready for death, and its episodes are only a metaphor for existence: life is a spiritual exercise to prepare for death. So at the end my Tamino and Pamina were old, and the trials I made really hard, physical, almost torturous. The emotional effect was formidable. It's true. Judith Bielen walked out on the production. She screamed it wasn't Mozart. I didn't succeed in all my plans, but in two weeks I'm doing it again in Turin."

Pintilie says that far from being cruel and mocking, he's actually a sentimentalist. He's broad, accessible and perhaps it's the Russian in him, he suggests, that gives him his blend of grotesque and sentimental. Both are prime elements, though, in Rigoletto, drawn from Victor Hugo by Verdi. Pintilie's Rigoletto will be a travelling star, with San Francisco stickers on his theatrical trunk. But when he makes up he turns into the entirely traditional image of the hunchback jester.

In Hugo, Pintilie recalls, the character is intellectually brilliant, and delivers in the crucial pages the most powerful, polemical arguments from a romantic, socialist standpoint. Rigoletto's Duke is untouched by tragedy; Rigoletto elates a Roland Barthes essay about James Bond being untouched by the violence around him. "There are mediocre people outside the world of tragedy,"

Hugh Hebert on the subway vigilantes

Goetz's death wish

EVEN before he was indicted, there were T-shirts on the New York streets emblazoned Acquit Bernhard Goetz, or Goetz For Crooks Zero, and within weeks there were instant books and an instant music video with a limp but explicit lyric: "He's the subway vigilante. He's tired of being bad. Don't bother with him, brother. I'll get you if you're bad."

Goetz became an instant American folk hero last December when he shot four youths who approached him in a subway carriage and asked him, the story goes, first for a light, then for a cigarette. He then disappeared for 10 days during which the only image the great American public had of him was supplied by every account of the incident, likening him to the Charles Bronson of the film *Death Wish*. When he gave himself up on New Year's Eve, he was not one bit like Charles Bronson; more like a Woody Allen who had been through a wringer and lost his jokes.

He also soon lost some of his heroic aura. One of the two youths had been shot in the back, and new eye witness evidence, and a series of statements by Goetz to the police made it seem he had not acted in quite the mood of angry self-defence against a threatened assault, as everyone had assumed.

In a police tape recording, he admits seeing one of the shot youths slumped on a seat: "I said, 'You seem to be doing all right here, an' another shot him a second time: this youth is still in hospital, critically wounded and paralysed for life. The youths hadn't even taken the screwdrivers from their pockets."

The image of Goetz began to change from a threatened man with the guts to fight back, to something like a man who — having been mugged before — had planned cold bloodedly to take his revenge on a city that had, in his own eyes, turned him into a monster: "I knew in my heart I was a murderer." Let off at first with a risible indictment for illegal possession of arms, he now faces attempted murder charges.

The police tape recordings were heard by the BBC's (BBC1) Panorama investigation of the Goetz case, and the whole phenomenon of the white vigilante movement to which it gave such a boost, has never been available to a television team in Britain. Don't ask me whether they should have been available in the US: all you can be sure of is that it was the media that first made Goetz a hero; and that it was this kind of material available to the media later that put his actions in some kind of perspective.

Tom McLaughlin's report did that admirably with hair-raising sequences on related themes, like the highly organised white vigilante group in Newark. It was the first Panorama shot professionally with portable electronic cameras, and the quality of the material videotaped in the dim subway and various dungeons of the New York police department was way above par.

The one unfortunate side effect was that at some points it felt more like a feature film and the producer John Penkay bowed over no doubt by the sheer quality of the image, added atmospheric drum beats and music that had no business at all in this kind of documentary.



Leonard O'Malley as Benny Lynch and Caroline Guthrie as his wife Ann

Life on the ropes Joyce McMillan in Glasgow reviews The Boxer, Benny Lynch

IT'S difficult to convey to anyone outside Glasgow the peculiar status in the city's life of a figure like Benny Lynch, the boxer. He was a working class hero who seemed, for a couple of brief years in the 1930s, to carry on his shoulders the whole weight of the frustrated hopes and aspirations of the Scottish people.

Peter Arnott's *The Boxer* Benny Lynch — showing at the Glasgow Arts Centre throughout Mayfest — in a shoestring production partly financed by the Scottish Health Education Group — is by no means the first at-

tempt to dramatise Lynch's tragic story. Bill Bryden made a more florid and prestigious stab at it in Edinburgh a dozen years ago. But it seemed to me an extraordinarily spare, intelligent and effective account of the life, acted with admirable understanding and discipline by a scratch company of Scottish professionals.

Arnott's treatment of the story is episodic, but never — in this fluent and well made production by Lloyd Quinan — jerky, superficial or untheatrical; the scenes flow eloquently into one another, beginning with a flashback from the days of

Lynch's alcoholic decline, highlighting the key moments of decision in his career, circling around his increasingly hopeless battle with the bottle, cleverly illuminating the pressures behind his dependence on it.

The writing, even in the disappointingly undramatic closing scenes when Lynch slips out of the action and the other characters recount his decline in monologue, is taut, funny, and astonishingly free of cliché. If some of the background acting occasionally slides towards caricature, there are ample compensations in the performances of Leonard O'Malley

as Lynch and Jake d'Arcy as his trainer, and of Hugh Loughran and John Ramage in a variety of supporting roles.

On the evidence of this play, Arnott is one of those rare writers with the wit to choose his standpoint, tell his story, and then let it speak for itself. Using a simple format, minimal resources, and a health education brief that could easily have been a handicap, he comes very close to the heart of one of the most poignant and nationally significant stories in Scottish popular culture.

COLCHESTER Jill Burrows

The Easter Egg

"NOW, for all you voyeurs in the audience..." says Sue Rossiter at the end of Clean Break's new touring show, and the assessment is fair enough. There is a different buzz, a glamour even, about a theatre company whose members are all "criminalised" women. There is a tangle of receptive ideas and prejudices to be disposed of and that the company does very efficiently. Where they score theatrically is in their ability to engage us in an experience we are unlikely to undergo ourselves.

Chris Tehalovsky's autobiographical play is set in 1969 and in some ways is more interesting for its recreation of a little-known youth culture than for its declared polemic and educational concern with criminality and the law.

At first glance we are in a down-market, West Country version of *Grease*, with Bobby Vee on the jukebox, bouffant hair, and winklepickers, but this world is exclusively female. So matter-of-factly is the presentation that for some time it is not clear whether it is the actors or the characters who are taking on male roles.

Both the writing and the acting are a bit rough-and-ready. Sometimes that can seem a virtue and there are moments of real brilliance, such as Pam's wailing of Phil. "Your eyes are like bleeding saucers (pause) like bleeding plates." And as Nicky, Elena Loizides gives a dangerous, abrasive performance.

COVENT GARDEN Mary Clarke

The Sleeping Beauty

THERE is much in Peter Wright's version of *Sleeping Beauty* that I admire: the serious treatment of Cantalabutte (in David Morse's anxious reading); the introduction of the spindle through an old lady and garland dancer; as an accident of court life: the new choreography for the garland dancer for six pretty girls and bounding boys; the lovely painterly depiction of the hunting scene with its formal dances; and the whole magic sequence of the journey to the castle.

I still resist the concept of the Lilac Fairy as a mime role — mime, moreover, seriously hampered by the voluminous sleeves of the costume — and the anonymity of the Prologue fairies, but these are quibbles when set against the overall sweep, grandeur and intelligence of the staging.

The last of the season's Aurora's — Margaret Barbiere, a romantic dancer at her best in the vision scene. She's a little tentative in the first act and needs more amplitude in her arms and back for the third act. However she's a charmer who charms, and she was nobly partnered by Alan Dubrevil.

Evelyn Hart, technically confident and assured in manner, gave an account of the Enchanted Princess that had ballerina quality. Roland Price, her Blue Bird, lacked incisiveness in his footwork although he jumps well. There was good dancing and support, as always with the SWRB, from the whole ensemble.

RFH/RADIO 3 Edward Greenfield

Tennstedt

IT IS strange that Janacek's *Glagolitic Mass*, one of the earliest of choral works, should have so attracted the most refined of German conductors. Ten years or so ago it was Rudolf Kempe with the RPO who both conducted it in concert and recorded it, and now just as unexpectedly Klaus Tennstedt chose it for his latest concert with the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

But where Kempe's refining process prevented the piece from having quite the

bite it needs, Tennstedt's approach brought a development in brute power as the piece progressed. If the orchestral introduction seemed suspiciously gentle with rhythms and phrases nicely moulded, the entry of the chorus — the London Philharmonic Choir — provided the key. Tennstedt had ensured that instead of Latin, the original language, which inspired Janacek, Old Slavonic, was used.

Whether or not it was Tennstedt's influence, Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto found the soloist, Radu Lupu, taking a strikingly different view of the piece than on either of his recordings. His natural poetry remained, but with speeds faster than usual in the outer movements, his playing sparkled.

This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

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Brian Wilson on a new chief at the BFI

McCabe the movie

THOSE who know Colin McCabe only as the structuralist storm in a Cambridge tea-cup may be surprised at yesterday's announcement, in Cannes, that he has been appointed head of production at the British Film Institute.

McCabe (38), is, however, an expert on French cinema, author of a book on Jean-Luc Godard, a member of the Institute's board for several years, has been a prominent contributor to Screen and has broadcast on the cinema for BBC Radio.

He left Cambridge in 1981 after being refused a full time teaching post and went to Strathclyde University where he was given a free hand in the University's English department to promote his ideas on the teaching of English in a post-graduate course on literary linguistics.

McCabe set up and became the first director of the Logie Baird Centre for research into television and film.

His move to the BFI may have something to do with his own pessimism about the future of higher education in Britain. "I don't know," he said, "if you can have an advanced industrial society without higher education but if things carry on as they are going in the country we should find out in ten years time."

McCabe has, however, found his stay in Strathclyde fruitful from a literary point of view. "I came up with a certain amount of interest in the Scottish renaissance, but very little other knowledge. I've become increasingly interested in contemporary Scottish writing, writing of which I was completely unaware. Novelists such as Alastair Gray and Jim Keenan just do not have the recognition they should outside of Scotland."

Under Peter Sainsbury, the outgoing head of production, the BFI production board was responsible for funding *Ascendancy*, The Draughtsman's Contract, and Christopher Petit's first film, *Radio On*.

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Mr Brittan tacks too much together

Before Bradford City's wooden stand went up in flames on Saturday, it was possible to argue that the biggest and most urgent problem facing football crowds was the problem of hooliganism. It has indeed been a terrible year for soccer violence. Games involving particularly notorious clubs, such as Leeds, Chelsea and Millwall have been consistently threatened. This hooliganism reached a horrible climax at Birmingham on Saturday, when Leeds, yet again, were the visitors. A young man from Northampton, attending his first ever match, was killed when a wall at St Andrews collapsed and, as the Home Secretary reported to the Commons yesterday, 125 arrests were made, 96 police officers required medical attention and 80 spectators were also treated. An element of moral panic there may be, but crowd violence at football matches has reached intolerable levels by any decent standards.

Over the years, however, there have been many sincere attempts to deal with such violent behaviour. Yet no one can say with any confidence that they have been the right solutions. Yesterday, Mr Leon Brittan appointed Mr Justice Popplewell to try again, by referring to him the events at Birmingham on Saturday. Perhaps the judge will succeed where others have failed. But the persistent intractability of the hooliganism issue, awful though it is, suggests that the Popplewell inquiry will have to search long and hard for new and effective answers. That is why it was a mistake for the Home Secretary to elide the Birmingham events and the Bradford disaster into one inquiry in his announcement yesterday. The appalling fire at Bradford has transformed public awareness of an entirely distinct issue from hooliganism, namely the ghastly lack of safety for spectators packed into combustible grandstands without proper means of escape in emergencies. There is already an alarming amount of evidence that Valley Parade was not alone

in allowing large crowds to congregate in a tinder-box. At least 10 other football league grounds, and a host of other sporting venues are vulnerable to the inconceivable horror which struck Bradford on Saturday.

For that reason, Mr Brittan was absolutely right to announce a full inquiry into the facts and the general lessons of the Bradford fire. But this inquiry itself will be a considerable task for Mr Justice Popplewell and his team. In the first place, there is a mass of evidence to assemble. More than that, there is a real urgency for the inquiry to identify other grandstands and grounds where equivalent danger lurks. This is true for the summer sports which are now getting under way. But the start of the next football season is only three months away, too. And, with the designation of English lower league grounds under the safety licensing legislation announced by the Home Secretary yesterday, these clubs face real and immediate problems of advice and money if they are to be able to open their gates to the public in August. Of course, this aspect of the Popplewell inquiry will have to examine the related issues of crowd safety and crowd control — and this will have implications and connections for a strategy to deal with crowd violence. But the immediate task must be to lay down the ground rules and to supply the money to make the stadiums safe for spectators. That is quite enough for one inquiry to be going on with. It looks very much at this stage as though Mr Brittan has combined the two issues to protect the Prime Minister's political amour propre. By all means let the inquiry examine hooliganism in due course. But first things should come first. And the shattering events at Valley Parade are the priority.

No comfort for Kohl

The result of Sunday's election of a new parliament in North Rhine-Westphalia, West Germany's largest federal state with a third of the national electorate, is the worst political setback for the Chancellor, Dr Kohl, since he came to power in Bonn late in 1982. Results at German municipal, state and federal levels tend to be close with the odd percentage-point shift often proving de-

cisive. In these conditions Sunday's 75 per cent poll (shamefully for such as ourselves) has to be described as low; and the fall of nearly 7 per cent of the total vote suffered by Dr Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) verges on the cataclysmic. By not only hanging on to their absolute majority in the state but also increasing their share of the total vote by nearly 4 per cent, the Social Democrats (SPD), who are in opposition at federal level in Bonn, can claim a resounding triumph in the most important poll between federal elections.

The campaigns fought by the two big parties could hardly have been more different. The SPD focused overwhelmingly on the personality of their state prime minister for the past seven years, Mr Johannes Rau, who is therefore extremely well placed now to move to centre-stage in federal politics. The CDU tried to cash in on their federal predominance and the associated bonus of holding the chancellorship, which entailed undue attention to national and neglect of local issues. Dr Kohl beamed from as many hoardings across the state as did Dr Bernhard Worms, the unfortunate CDU candidate for the premiership, but they were not depicted together. This was no accident. Dr Kohl imposed Dr Worms on the local party at the expense of at least one other much stronger candidate and simultaneously distanced himself from his nominee in case things went wrong. At the same time the CDU's attempt to blame relatively high local unemployment on the SPD state government backfired, as the Chancellor was the first to admit. Clearly many CDU voters succumbed to defeatism and stayed at home while a significant number of others transferred their allegiance. The CDU dug its own grave, and the SPD was only too pleased to complete the obsequies.

The Liberal FDP will be hugely relieved to get back into the state parliament with 6.4 per cent of the total vote. At the last election in 1980 it narrowly failed to get the minimum five per cent necessary for entry. The recent change in the FDP's federal leadership and support from CDU sympathisers concerned for the welfare of the CDU-FDP coalition in Bonn probably combined to produce this minimal restoration of the party's fortunes after a series of corruption scandals. But the result hardly heralds a glorious new dawn: at best it

provides a breather in a long struggle for survival. The failure of the environmentalist Greens to surmount the five per cent hurdle in a state where heavy industry predominates is an unqualified disaster for them. The nationwide internal row between the fundamentalists and the pragmatists who want to coalesce with the SPD has gone on too long, and recent Green contact with terrorists and advocacy of child sex were probably less than beneficial. Their days may now be numbered.

North Rhine-Westphalia thus emerges in 1985 with a parliament which is a throw-back to West German politics of the sixties and seventies before the Greens had to be taken seriously. The SPD now knows it can win a major election under a leader from its own moderate right. The CDU has been punished for complacency, unemployment, welfare cuts and probably also for the Bitburg cemetery fiasco and faces a struggle to retain power in Bonn after the next federal election in 1987. From the polluted environment of the Ruhr comes a blast of fresh air to enliven the stuffy atmosphere in Bonn.

The Dutch flock grow restive

It is not Calvinists taking their cue from Pastor Jack Glass or the Rev. Ian Paisley who are throwing the Coke bottles (metaphorically and perhaps literally) at the Pope-mobile, but card-carrying Roman Catholics. One meaning of this novelty is that nobody is debarred from expressing anxieties about the present Pontificate simply on the ground that the doctrines of the Church are a matter for Catholics alone. For it is evident in Holland that the religious and the secular intertwine and that a large proportion of the Pope's flock (60 per cent in a recent poll) cannot accept all the secular implications of his teaching. If they are free to criticise the ill effects of religious conservatism so, a fortiori, is everybody else.

The Pope's defenders would say that in public matters he is himself a liberation theologian giving a high priority, many times expressed, to the equality of people and their emancipation from oppressive sys-

tems, whether Communist or capitalist. It is in matters of personal conduct, especially sexual ones, that he applies the emphatic veto of the Holy See. That is partly true. To the extent that it is, Catholics may have a grievance rather than a legitimate complaint. Those who are unhappy with the club rules and regulations can either leave and play somewhere else or try to change them, as Dutch Church people, taking their lead from Schillebeeckx, have been doing in the Roman Church.

But there are impediments to the second course within the Church and there are areas where the distinction between public and private is much less sharp. John Paul is a very centrist Pope. Witness his imposition of conservative bishops on Dutch dioceses which would prefer more radical ones. Witness the summonses which go out to errant priests and theologians to attend the Vatican and explain themselves. The effect of this close central direction is that the scope for movement is blocked off. The Catholic Church allows little room for what in political parlance would be constitutional change or legislative reform. It is now seeing results identical with those which secular powers experience when they do likewise. Moreover, in reinforcing theocratic rules about the position of women in the Church, the Vatican inevitably says something about their position in the world at large. In this respect the Pope's guidance is seen as not much more liberated, allowing for the cultural differences between a Pole and a Persian, than that of the Ayatollah Khomeini.

That these controversies should surface in Holland is unsurprising, and tickets for this particular outing have not, by all accounts, been in strong demand among the Pope's entourage. The Roman Church there possess a high degree of talent and self-confidence. It has had to fend for itself against the historically dominant Calvinists. That competition is over and the two groups show a healthy mutual regard. It is partly this which has enabled the Catholics to turn their attention to what they see as the shortcomings of their own Church and to pin their hopes on a detente with headquarters issuing from Vatican II. So far those hopes, for many, have been disappointed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Selling a birthright

Sir.—The privatisation of British Gas is not "daff" as suggested in your Leader (May 8): it is corrupt.

The handing over to private interests for private profit of a raw material of incalculable value — billions upon billions of pounds — is corruption on a scale not seen in this country since the 18th century. It is a grotesque abuse of democratic power to enrich the minority of the people at the expense of all the rest.

It is cynical dishonesty to pretend that this is an exercise in property sharing open to everyone: how many of the nine million pensioners, one and a half million one-parent families, four million folk on supplementary benefit, 10 million low paid workers will be able to buy shares in British Gas.

Even if, peradventure, some two million citizens end up "owning" a stake in British Gas that will leave 53 million who from then on will be helping to line the pockets of the favoured few and those few will not be the poorest of the poor.

In fact most of them will almost certainly be the political supporters of the Tory party with a fat bribe in their pockets to persuade them, come hell and high water (and five million unemployed), to back Thatcher to the limit.

The public swindle of the sales of Amersham, Aerospace, Telecom, were evil in themselves but those businesses were made by natural gas: a resource made by no man and belongs to the people, all the people, like any other. If privatisation goes through, and I hope it will be blocked, it will be the biggest theft on record.—Yours faithfully, Frank Hooley, 6 Maryland Drive, Sutton Coldfield.

Miscellany at large

Sir.—It must be the ultimate slap in the face for a dedicated National Health Service employee to receive with her wage slip an advert for a private health insurance scheme. Coca-Cola do not invite their employees to drink Pepsi. Mary Sawtell, London SE17.

Sir.—Your correspondent, Margaret Dibben, is misleading on the subject of Eurocheques (May 11).

A month ago we found two different reactions on successive nights in France. At one hotel (in the large Marnet chain) Eurocheques were not accepted at all. At the other, payment by Eurocheque required a surcharge of 20 francs.

In both cases the reason was the high charge levied on the hotel by the French bank.—Yours faithfully, I. D. M. Reid, Surrey.

Sir.—The teachers seem unlikely to obtain Government approval for their pay claim being neither wealthy (in the main), entrepreneurs, police nor members of the armed forces.

It might be noticed, however, that two of the Government's groups of "favourite

Is the price of nuclear power worth paying?

Sir.—Just how gullible does the National Radiation Protection Board think the general public is? Anthony Tucker reports (May 9) that they admit the house dust near Sellafield contains 6,000 times the plutonium in Oxfordshire and Berkshire. Yet they still maintain there is "no cause for alarm."

They still make comparisons with "natural background," surely, most people now know that any plutonium — a man-made element — is unnatural.

One wonders where the plutonium comes from in Oxfordshire and Berkshire — Aldermaston and Burghfield.

My purpose, inspired by the departed, was to avoid all unnecessary fuss and expense. The coffin was designed as a stout well-stapled carton lined with cooking foil and was brushed with clear polyurethane, two coats outside, one within (to which the cooking foil adhered). Tasteless wording was stencilled on the outside and there were many autographs, messages, etc., made by my friends, the mourners, with a ceremonial felt pen. Frieze of place was given to a telegram from Her Majesty the Queen, and underneath it a generous death grant from the Rt. Hon. Norman Fowler, M.P., as head of the Department of Health and Social Security.

There were six of us in

cases of leukemia — plutonium follows strontium and calcium into the bones and radiates the marrow. The fact that all the hot-spots for leukemia do not occur near nuclear facilities would indicate that radioactive particles emitted accidentally or on purpose can drift long distances in quite concentrated form. When I lived in Vermont, there were rises in leukemia incidence that seemed to correlate with the Nevada/Utah bomb testing.

What the authorities who are prolonging this clumsy cover-up really want to tell us is that the number of victims will still be small, and the sort of risk is on a par with the road accidents we are so accustomed to, which occur with a statistical certainty as a result of our obsession with speed.

They really needn't be that worried. I doubt if there'll be a mass emigration from the Sellafield area. People accept statistical risks with great equanimity: there are large populations on the fertile soils near active volcanoes, and in earthquake zones.

But it would be helpful if the nuclear authorities would stop the cover-up, would admit the risk and would ask the public, through the Government, to decide if the benefits from nuclear power and nuclear defence are worth this small extra number of casualties.

To my mind, the risk of total extermination from a nuclear-based defence is far too high. And I suspect we could carry on very well without the small contribution to the national grid

officialdom both civil and ecclesiastical. No one could fault the behaviour of the kindly men who had immediate care of the burial ground. Since this was due to be deconsecrated the following day their employment prospects were uncertain, and they were prevailed upon to sanction the burial by leaving off the padlock, and at most reasonable cost, dispensing with all formalities. This made the provision of a headstone, or a statue, unnecessary.

In place of the burial service, which would have given grave offence to my mother-in-law's last wishes and remains, the free time was more than taken up by short speeches from all and sundry, on themes taken out of a hat, her favourite pastime; and then a collection was taken to defray expenses.

Granville Lucking, Oak Bottom, Nether Wallop.

gliding we are amongst the world leaders, or that in planning for informal recreation, such as rambling, tennis players, soccer enthusiasts, but had really only one person with real in-depth experience in outdoor pursuits.

Two recent surveys in this region (Manchester and Liverpool) have shown that when asked what activities they wish to pursue within sport and leisure, young people come out heavily in favour of outdoor pursuits.

The British record of achievements in these activities is remarkable. We have often been either the originators or given these pursuits their direction. The achievements never get much recognition, for no one seems to care that in hang

Area (modern terminology for a slum) and have no hot water or heating. I have been informed that I am not eligible for any form of financial assistance.

It was even suggested by the Environmental Health Department that boiling

from the nuclear power stations.—Yours faithfully, Roger Franklin, Horsley, Stroud.

Sir.—Am I alone among your readers in feeling a sense of irritation when I read the words "Sellafield (formerly Windscale)" in the Guardian? It has become a knee-jerk cliché. Years ago your science correspondent voiced the suspicion that the Atomic Energy Authority changed the name Windscale to Sellafield in order to mislead the public, since then, the Guardian has never ceased to remind us.

I have news for you. There is a village on the Cumbrian coast called Sellafield. The atomic site was built near it at Windscale. My 1982 Ordnance Survey still distinguishes the two places; one

officialdom both civil and ecclesiastical. No one could fault the behaviour of the kindly men who had immediate care of the burial ground. Since this was due to be deconsecrated the following day their employment prospects were uncertain, and they were prevailed upon to sanction the burial by leaving off the padlock, and at most reasonable cost, dispensing with all formalities. This made the provision of a headstone, or a statue, unnecessary.

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It was even suggested by the Environmental Health Department that boiling

water in saucepans and kettles was perfectly adequate for washing nappies and bathing my 18-month-old son. So this is that Thatcher means by a return to Victorian Values.—Yours, Nina Webb, 5 Holst Avenue, Chesham, Manchester.

Cold comfort and no room for improvement

Sir.—Forty years on, and I have now been informed that due to cut backs in central government funding there are no longer any home improvement grants available from the City of Manchester.

Despite the fact that I live in a General Improvement

Victory night celebrations that led to a lady's downfall

Sir.—Postscript to last week's VE-Day reminiscences and razzamatazz: evidently the Queen and I had something in common.

I was 15 at the time and a scholar of Cheltenham Ladies' College. The school was so prim that we were not allowed even to wear red, white and blue rosettes to mark the great day; and we were effectively "confined to barracks" (presumably to preserve our ladyhood). I had other ideas.

Assuming it had been "the war to end all wars" and that it would never call to me to celebrate the termination of another, I decided that night to go out "on the town."

I climbed out of a window and (not wearing my school uniform) rode around the town on a US army jeep. Later I was picked up by a young factory worker who showed me the sights, saw me "home" and kissed me goodnight at about 3 a.m. I went back through the window into St Austin's (my "house") only to discover my absence had been noted.

My "house lady" was awaiting me. I was suspended from College and a fortnight of my 10 (so far) prison sentences, put in virtual incommunicado detention in the school sanatorium. My scholarship was removed for "bad behaviour."

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Two tell-tale faces of famine

Sir.—Mahmood Mamdani's anecdote about a "fat man and a thin man" (Third World Review, May 10) derives from a public exchange between G.B. Shaw and G.K. Chesterton. Said Chesterton: "To see you, Mr Shaw, one would think there was a famine in the land." To which Shaw replied: "And looking at you, Mr Chesterton, one would know who to blame."

I first heard the story from a great-nephew of mine who knew both Shaw and Chesterton and actually attended the meeting at which the exchange took place. It was a great pity if this exchange were to become part of the collected attributions of Aneurin—Yours, Robert Tarpin, 4 Westbourne Road, Peverell, Plymouth.

Sir.—I first heard the fat man/thin man anecdote in

an aboriginal settlement in Australia's Northern Territory. As an anecdote about the then premier, Sir Robert Menzies (who was fat), it appears also among specimen guides to idiomatic conversation in foreign languages, real or invented.

It appears in the latter form in Anders Olson's *How to Speak Ling* (Stockholm 1950). Another doomed attempt to spread a new international lingo. Your readers may care to try the original version.

"Major Bernard Shaw met gras chesterton 'kan un vid ju' dik chesterton, 'un pov kred ke es famin in grand brit.' 'c kan un vid ju,' respond g b s. 'un pov kred ju av kaus lo.'—Yours faithfully, Peter Black, 57 The Avenue, Wraybury, Berkshire.

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A COUNTRY DIARY

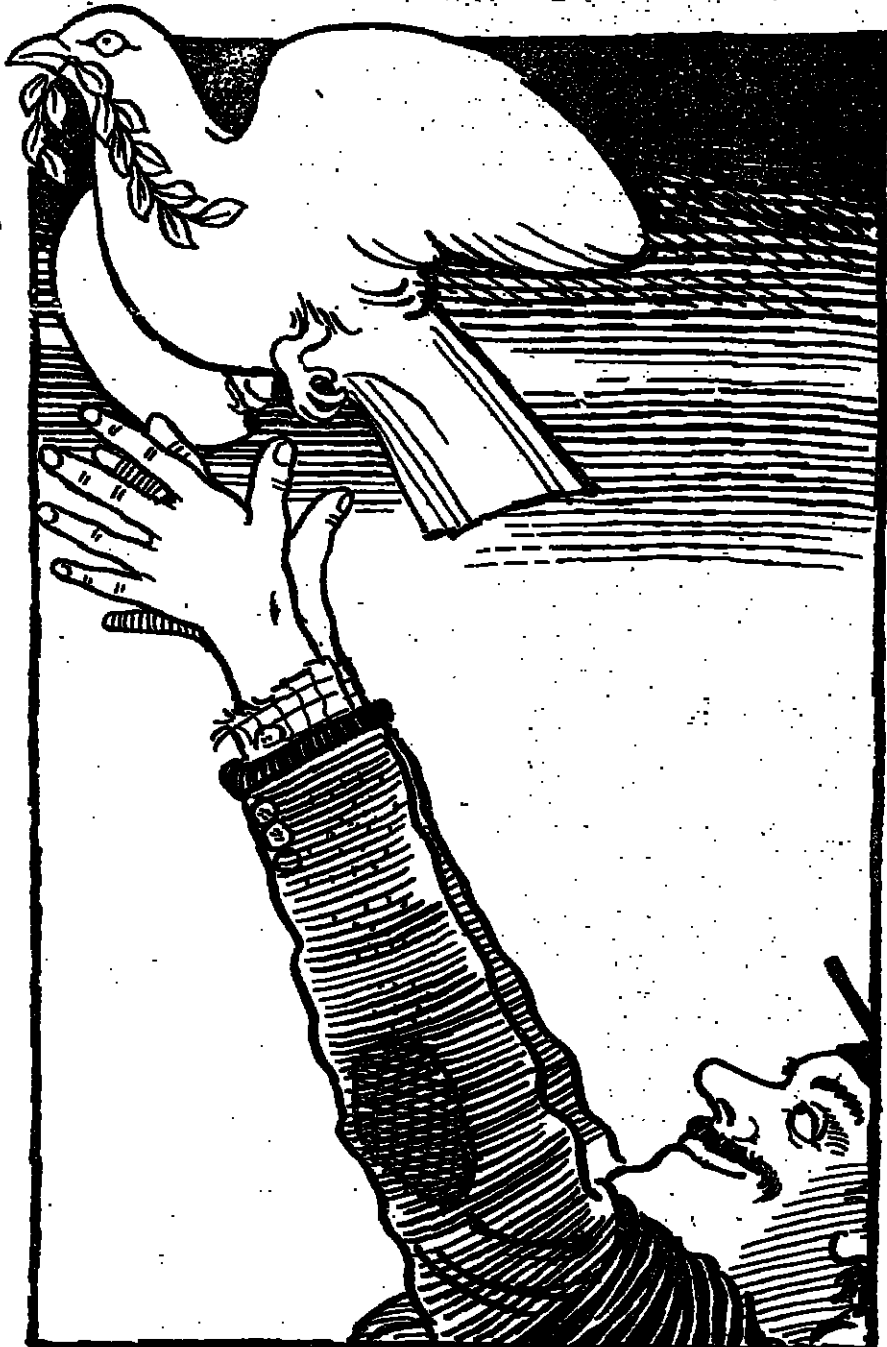
LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES: The Bank holiday weekend brought a succession of sunny days but, apparently, lower temperatures than my home county of Cheshire had enjoyed.

However spring was further advanced with the horse chestnuts decked with white candles, many wild flowers in bloom which had not yet appeared in the North, and hundreds of swallows flying high above a reservoir. In Richmond Park a blackcap was in song, and accompanied by downy youngsters. Green woodpeckers laughed repeatedly without giving us a sight of them, although we did find a pair in Ashdown

Forest on the following day. In the Isabella Plantation, the multicoloured azaleas and other shrubs were beginning to show promise of their glorious summer colours, and a couple of black swans left their pool to accept handfuls of barley which they washed carefully before swallowing. In a wood of scrub birch in Ashdown Forest, it was exciting to meet three creatures which we never see in Cheshire: a tree pipit, once common but now quite absent anywhere within walking distance of my house, was performing its lovely song-flights from the summit of a tall tree; an adder was sun-bathing on the path; and several brimstone

butterflies of both sexes were on the wing. The house martins had returned to their nesting site under the eaves of a house in Sussex and, in a nearby nature reserve where there is a huge badger sett, the ground was carpeted with bluebells and their sweet elusive scent filled the air. Grampian butterflies danced over the flowers, and the bracken was already knee-high. A cuckoo called persistently and we watched it fly from a tall tree; but we did not see the female bird which was uttering its peculiar bubbling call nearby.

L. P. SANUELS



John Edwards is 36. He has a degree and a teaching qualification. He teaches Geography and Science at a large, successful comprehensive. He says:

Suppose he had decided to work for one of the 'big five' banks. He would probably have been paid £30,000 p.a. by the time he was 37. Plus fringe benefits. Three years ago, he could have joined one of the country's largest publishing houses. He had taught for 10 years.

many schools and colleges is extremely poor, and would never be accepted in business. Staff turn up late for classes, occasionally not at all, and when it comes to career planning, they seem to be interested only in the money. The casual attitude they bring, even if paid, is the guilty one. It is not in the majority, constantly nagging the conscientious standards we strive to set at home.

No wonder parents are frustrated with teachers. No wonder.

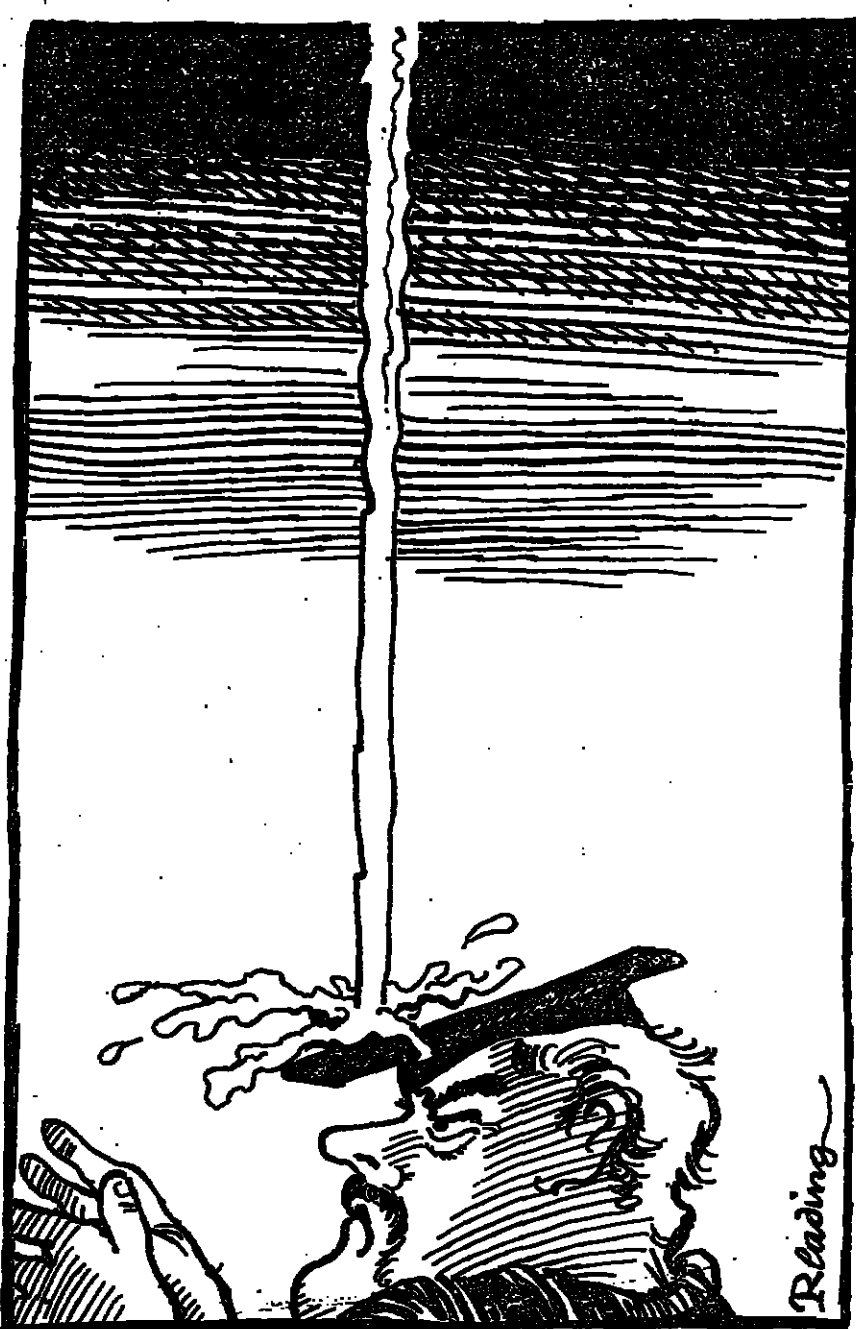
Dear Sir,

Your advertisement in the Daily Express today was most interesting. The teacher I remember from when I was at school was nearly all unpleasant but he had a few letters moving. If Mr Edwards had decided to be some sort of bank clerk, a publishing man, or a P.C., he would have had to do something. He is likely to not get all that but what he does!

Specimen replies to the AMMA campaign

Yah, boo, sucks!

Let us, in a cool and rational way, remind the public just how badly off we are, decided one teachers' union. The response, reveals Peter Smith, was not quite what they had anticipated



CAREERS

Jobs for lives

WE HEAR a lot about "relevant" education nowadays. What pupils do in school is supposed to have a purposeful relationship with what they do, or want to do, after they leave. To establish such a connection is the task of three separate bodies: it is easy to get their titles and roles confused.

Careers teachers have the earliest and most continuous experience with the young people in their charge. There was a time when these were mostly reluctant volunteers, whose only aid was a shoe-box full of free leaflets. Now, though, the career job is only rarely a full-time one, it is usually held by at least one person who has received some specialist training and is fully committed to keeping up to date in order to meet increasing and changing demands. He or she maintains as big a careers library as the school's budget permits and will do as much individual guidance work as the timetable will allow. Most of their time, though, is taken up by putting over basic concepts about career choice and life skills to class-sized groups. This is a field in which the Job Centre and employment offices have the highest profile, both in the media and the high street. Most people believe that the Employment Division staff who work in these offices are the primary source of counselling for youngsters who are between school and work or training. In fact they tend to operate on the principle that most of their clients know more or less what they want, and the centre is rather like a cafeteria.

The offices of the local authority careers service are more likely to be tucked away down some side street. Its official name is the Careers Service, established by the Employment and Training Act (1973), the same Act which set up the Manpower Services Commission. A more detailed booklet issued by the Department of Employment, the Careers Service: Guidance to Local Authorities — was last updated in 1980.

Jeff Reynolds, president of the Institute of Careers Officers, says that it is the job of his colleagues "to help anyone, full-time or part-time (some part-time and evening courses) to reach an informed, realistic decision about a future career... and to assist them by finding suitable and appropriate jobs, training, educational or other opportunities."

They make the same prearrangements as the careers teachers, that their young clients, and attitudes and wise and need as much help, guidance and support as they can get. This can go on long after school or college, through YTS, and into employment or unemployment. Most of their time, however, is spent in the schools, where they become involved with students and parents from the time of the first options (particularly if YTS is one of the possible choices) through to the end of the sixth form.

They conduct individual guidance interviews, using information obtained from the young people themselves, from the careers teachers and, where necessary, from the family doctor. All are trained to administer objective tests to assess aptitudes and many use them; this technique has been employed in Birmingham for a long time. Some use a formal priority system, based on questionnaires and designed to help the young people, to help them decide how often and when each individual needs to be seen.

Increasingly, careers teachers and officers are using computers. The Careers Service set up a programme of evaluation and development for the Job Ideas and Information Generator/Computer Assisted Learning (JIGAL) which relates pupils' interests, careers choice and local opportunities for training and employment.

All over the country careers officers are actively stimulating and helping employers, Urban Aid teams, YTS managing agents, and the EEC to create such opportunities where none existed before. They have influenced the provision of grant aid for apprenticeships, the formation of cooperative courses and self-employment groups, the development of post-YTS training, new courses in further education, and sheltered employment for handicapped young people. In the North-east, for example, they have asked the authorities to consider new, but long-neglected courses in warehousing and funeral directing.

Part of their job is trying to extend the horizons of expectation; encouraging boys to think of nursing, girls of construction work, working class children to envisage going to university, and producing unfamiliar routes into new technology-based careers.

Written by Jack Cross, from information supplied by Jeff Reynolds, and Ivor Lee, of the National Association of Careers and Guidance Teachers.

MEMBERS of the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association voted overwhelmingly against strike action as a means of pressing the teachers' current pay claim. There were narrow ballot majorities in favour of other forms of disruptive action, but too narrow, the executive decided, to provide an unambiguous mandate. Instead, members were asked to donate to the cost of a press advertising campaign to explain the teachers' case. Better, the argument went, to use money that way than to give it to LEAs in pay deductions, and more positive.

Aiming at readers known in media circles as 'B and C' opinion formers, the Mail, Express and Telegraph, deliberately choosing papers whose editorial lines are, if anything, anti-teacher. We advertised in the Guardian too, but more because its large teachers' space in the Mail, Express and Telegraph would see the advertisements and know that we were actually using the money they were sending in. We also took space in the Sunday Times, provincial newspapers in key pre-local

government election areas, and a few specialist weeklies. The first advertisement in the series dealt in a fairly straightforward and uncomplicated way with salary comparisons. The salary of a reasonably typical 30 year old scale 1 teacher (and more than 60 per cent of teachers are on the bottom two Burnham scales) was compared with the likely salary of a 27-year-old bank official, a graduate employee of about the same age in a large, diverse publishing group, and an 18-year-old member of the Metropolitan Police. Our information came from an independent source and was cross-checked with a salary range was suggested, we took the middle figure. We had made it clear, in any case, that we did not want the salary of a spectacular high-flier or someone who would never be cross-checked with a salary range for average salaries of sound middle-managers.

The teacher came out bottom of the stack, and our advertisement suggested with a coolness rare in the world of education that the union arena, come to that

not to have thought of what would happen to the education service if too many able young men and women acted on the advice and either rejected teaching as a potential career from the outset, or left for greater rewards as soon as possible after entry.

Comparing teachers' pay with police pay provoked considerable indignation, and in some correspondents, almost incoherent anger. The lesson is that the comparison does not help the teachers' case at all because it arouses such powerful feelings mainly unrelated to the question the advertisement implied. Is it right that a raw recruit to the Metropolitan Police, with very limited training, responsibility and experience, should earn more than a 30-year-old teacher? Few readers asked that question. They instinctively contrasted their impression (and in some cases actual experience) of the high risk nature of police work with their view of teaching as a safe, secure, undemanding job.

Almost every letter or telephone call assumed that the teachers who had placed the

advertisement were on strike. The assiduously accurate reporting by newspapers of the various policies of the various teacher unions was a source of frustration, even those most reasonable in tone and approach, was strongly critical of striking teachers. Such action was seen either as undermining the teachers' case for public sympathy entirely, or a powerful distraction from whatever merits the case had.

Teachers have complained for a long time that they are the subjects of unjustified criticism, and usually link their complaint with baseless slurs on their competence. But few people complain about falling standards. The main public criticisms are quite different. Whether they are grounded or not, they are the attacks teachers must answer. And the conclusion I draw is that there is an urgent need for all of us to take our public relations very seriously.

Peter Smith is deputy general secretary of the Assistant Masters' and Mistresses Association.

WHAT rights do parents have when the LEA tries to close a school? The DES urges consultation on LEAs, and the Secretary of State, who has the final say, will take the consultation into account when making his decision. But is this a legal 'right' or just a procedural courtesy? And, anyway, what exactly does it mean, and are there any obligations placed on authorities to do anything about what is said? A recent case involving Brent Council, known for its political volatility, sheds some interesting light on the view the courts will take of these matters.

In the early 1980s, Brent issued two consultation papers about secondary reorganisation in the light of falling rolls. At the end of the process, in the early 1983, the council-controlled authority gave an assurance (a "guarantee" some called it) that all the secondary schools would remain for at least five years. So the matter might have rested had not a Labour councillor crossed benches, making the Conservative group the largest party, with the Liberals holding the balance. The political control exercised by this alliance could not extend to the education committee, which, under the 1944 Act, was extended by co-opted members with experience of education and knowledge of the area.

The new administration instructed the director of education to produce proposals to close and amalgamate schools. The council published proposals, though without the advice of the education committee.

The response was to put it mildly, stormy. The education committee, with its co-opted members much in evidence, recommended no action. The council itself, which has the responsibility as the "local education authority" did not agree, and instead published a new set of proposals, involving the closure of two schools. The proposals were finally published on the first day of the summer holidays, just about in time for implementation in the autumn of 1985. Three parent governors of affected schools sought a judicial review by the High Court, and — unusually for a protesting group — were granted legal aid.

At this point, enter Mr Justice Hodgson, an immensely courteous judge with a sharp eye for detail. The parents complained about eight points; Mr Justice Hodgson upheld them on six. There is

that teachers' frustration was understandable, that the reasons for the pay dispute were self-evident, but that public understanding and support could remove its causes.

When the advertisement appeared, public response was large and immediate. That little of it was favourable was hardly a surprise. Those who agree with a case, or are willing to think about it, or those who disagree but turn the page, do not reach for the telephone or pen. It is the latter group that we had known already. What was surprising was the depth of hostility felt towards teachers by those stirred enough to contact us. If they are at all typical, their reactions need thinking about. Exaggerations of the norm may be, but what they said focuses sharply the nature of the prejudices teachers have to overcome if they are to win public sympathy.

Without being at all dismissive, two groups of callers or letter writers need little description. The bitterness of the skilled or professional workers who have been made redundant in late middle age

and have no real hope of ever working again was even more powerful than we could have possibly forecast. Their message was blunt, and not easy to answer in terms they could have accepted: Be bloody grateful you've got a job at all. Pensioners, some with higher others with no dignity left to them, could not find it easy to sympathise with a teacher who was, in their terms, positively wealthy; his greed for more, they implied, was the root cause of their frustrating poverty. There is no ready, simple answer to that consoling, emotive equation.

Letters from the redundant or pensioners were relatively few. The majority, coming from men and women and mainly Mail or Telegraph readers, rehearsed the same issues time after time.

An insistent message is resounding in the ears of the unsatisfiable long holidays with the inference — often mathematically demonstrated — that teachers' true salaries when annualised are substantially higher than teachers suggest. The argument overlooks the long hours teachers work during termtimes, many believing that one teacher union claimed in the not too distant past, that a teacher's contractual commitment is 30 hours per week, and many thinking, too, that few teachers do more. The perception takes no account of the fact that most teachers do school-related work during the holiday periods, nor does it recognise that teachers' services remain at their employers' call, so that they may undertake their regular employment, or — the acid test — register as unemployed. The view is that teachers are part-time workers claiming a full-time wage. Another theme repeated again and again is that teachers did not have to choose to teach. Having made their beds, they should lie on them without complaint, or find some other employment. Quite apart from the fact that job scarcity makes the option theoretical rather than real, those arguing in that way showed no sign of carrying the suggestion through to its logical extreme. They seemed

The Government's Green Paper on the Future of Higher Education — postponed because of the student grant confusion — is expected next week. Christopher Ball, the chairman of the National Advisory Body for Local Authority Higher Education, gives his views on what he would like to see in the Green Paper

Learning to love brainpower

"FOR some years there has been no coherent policy for higher education," says the Green Paper on the Future of Higher Education, and I believe it will be whether there is to be a serious policy on access to higher education, or just a repetition of the traditional (false) view that student demand is a natural and unmanageable phenomenon beyond the reach of planning.

As for the balance and pattern of courses, the responsibility lies primarily with institutions, in co-operation with the advisory bodies nevertheless have a duty, first, to encourage and monitor such changes, and secondly, to ensure that student demand is indeed well-informed, since otherwise the reconciliation of student demand and employment needs will continue to elude us.

Higher education is offered in some 600 institutions in the UK: the bulk of the work, however, is concentrated in about 150 major institutions — universities, polytechnics, Scottish central institutions, voluntary and local authority colleges. We need policies on the size, range of work distribution and categorisation of institutions.

How are academic standards to be maintained and, if possible, enhanced? The SRHE — Leverhulme Report stated: "During the course of our study two broad views emerged. One was that the non-university institutions should have less external intervention in their academic affairs; the other was that universities should have more."

Lindop favours the first view, but I doubt the wisdom of this. Is the possession of a charter and a system of external examiners a sufficient safeguard of standards? In the past the quality of courses in the public sector has been maintained and guaranteed by external validation (by CNA, BTEC and the validating universities). Can we rely in the future on HMI and external examiners in the designated institutions? It would be remarkable if a Secretary of State so concerned (and rightly) for academic standards were to preside over the weak-

ening of the system of quality assurance in the public sector.

It would be regrettable if major institutions in the public sector threw away the guarantee of quality provided by external threshold validation: status and respect in my experience, go to those who face and pass examinations, not to those who avoid them.

There are at present two critical funding issues: the establishment of a rationale for institutional funding and the review of student awards. I agree with Dr Knight that we need the principle of "similar funding for similar work" on a long-term policy for higher education. A system of funding which pays more to universities than polytechnics for the same number of comparable students is, in the long term, as indefensible as one which, at present, pays polytechnics more than colleges for the same work.

The student awards regulations are the bane of higher education planning, and I welcome an open debate of the best form of expenditure of nearly a quarter of the nation's higher education budget. For my part, I am prepared to consider the case for loans — perhaps in the limited form suggested in the SRHE-Leverhulme Report: there may well be better solutions.

For too long the Government has had no coherent policy for higher education. NAB has made its own position clear, and we look forward to reading the DES response; I hope we will be able to give the Green Paper one cheer for addressing the issues, two for making clear the hard choices that have to be faced, and three for offering a coherent long-term policy.

Christopher Ball is chairman of the NAB Board and Warden of Keele College, Oxford. He was a signatory of the SRHE-Leverhulme Report, and is author of a forthcoming book on higher education: *Fitness for Purpose* (SRHE & NFER-NELSON, £9.95).

Parents granted a foot in the door

What rights do parents have when an LEA tries to close a school? Maurice Kogan, Martin Lightfoot, and Tim Whitaker report on developments in the High Court

much of interest in its lengthy and trenchant judgment, not least to do with the special role of education in the balance, and the necessity to consider financial implications. But the main interest for parents is in its judgments on the process of consultation.

The parents had to show that they had a legitimate right to consultation. The judge was clear about this: their interests are clearly involved in the Secretary of State asks LEAs to do it, and Brent had shown that it, too, expected consultation by its actions in the early 1980s. Mr Justice Hodgson used the case of the Civil Service unions over the GCHQ, where it was conceded that the unions had a legitimate expectation of consultation, though overridden by national security. More than this, if the parents had a "legitimate expectation" of consultation, "then they have the same legal right to consultation as they would have had if it had been given to them by statute."

But, it was argued, consultation is only the beginning of the process. Surely, since the Secretary of State has the final decision, and the rate-payers have the statutory right to make complaints to him, then the LEA at its own risk could ignore or truncate the consultation. There would be nothing, actually illegal about it. Not so said Mr Justice Hodgson: there may be some situations in which people might need to be satisfied with "an unjust

Maurice Kogan is head, and Martin Lightfoot and Tim Whitaker are members, of the Department of Government at Brunel University.



School trips in safety

A MORE professional approach to safety is needed on school outings, argues a Penzance teacher, Martin Lynch. Friends of his saw the four boys swept away by the great wave at Land's End.

When a school journey is planned, he writes, attention usually settles on four areas: educational value; cost; travel arrangements; suitable accommodation. Experienced organisations offer to cope with all these aspects and to advise on insurance. There are regulations governing the ratio of staff to pupils. The choice of staff is left to the head teacher. Provided the finances are handled to the satisfaction of the auditors, a sensible disciplinarian is included in the leadership, there seem to be no more worries.

Generally, I am amazed at how confidently parents commit their children into teachers' care. At present, most school parties are organised by men and women who are experts in teaching

but amateurs in conducting parties on visits. A professional approach is needed on more professional approach.

Teaching in familiar surroundings in school or even taking local trips is one thing, but for teachers and children alike to travel to areas completely unknown to all of them, even in their own country, is quite another.

Inside each school there has to be a safety officer. This idea needs to be extended. No school party should be allowed to leave the premises without one of its leaders being specifically responsible for safety. He or she should have to have a certificate of approved training. This should be issued after an in-depth examination and updated with annual refreshers. He should be obliged to experience beforehand any proposed journey and follow the itinerary without children, to travel to the area, to advise on sensible precautions.

No-one doubts the value of a well-run school visit. It is time that the organisation was done by properly trained and rewarded people.

I do not know what difference it would have made at Land's End if there had been the kind of "safety officer" that I am proposing. The leader of that party has my sympathy when he is reported to have said that he had not been told that the sea was dangerous in this area. Even locals have been similarly swept away. To have known would not necessarily have been to prevent. But I am sure that a safety officer visiting the area first without children and asking the right questions might have been better prepared.

Now dry your hands

ACCORDING to the people who sell wall-washing machines, the vast majority of Britain's secondary schools have no facilities for the drying of hands. Apparently, caretakers, fed up with the floods

caused by lavatories being stuffed with paper towels, simply stopped supplying them. If they didn't end up down the lavatory, anyway, they all too frequently landed up as a soggy mess on the floor. Roller towels were no better. Not only were they easy to vandalise, but they were sometimes used to demonstrate hanging techniques on some unfortunate pupil.

The source of all this information is the education accounts manager for Warner Howard, Mr Kevin Clarke. He spends a lot of his time, nationally, trying to convince local authorities they should install his company's dryers in their schools.

The cost of paper towels, if used regularly, can be staggering. Berkshire primary head, John Pease, carried out a feasibility study with 60 children. They got through 400 paper towels before the end of the day. This, when applied to a school of 250, works out at around £4.4 per child per year — being not much less than his capitation of furniture fittings and equipment.

Mr Clarke continues his campaign against dirty hands with some success. Oxfordshire has just finished installing 250 machines, and Stockport is putting them into all secondary schools. And the cost, he maintains, is less than £1 per child per year. Of 4,000 machines around the country, only one to date has been vandalised.

AN unusual educational course has started at Goldsmiths' College in South-east London. "The principle of the course," says the promotional literature, "is that people do not want or need to be taught things."

Those invited to take part, free and with a free lunch, thrown in, are the unemployed and homeless. Thirty such students turned up at the first of the five weekly meetings last Tuesday. Goldsmiths' estimates that there are 1,400 or so homeless people in its local area.



Bargain of the week: see Learning in store

What did the tutor, Andy Evans, offer to students who did not want or need to be taught? The answer is, a discussion and an exchange of experiences.

They did talk about how to get by when unemployed and homeless, but to the tutor's surprise, they also wanted to talk about poetry.

No need to look for this course. Just turn up at 6 o'clock today and the following three Tuesdays at the brown door to the left of No. 6 Leisham Way. Next to Mecca Bookmakers.

Learning in store

A NEW all-purpose shop has sprung up in Hackney, north-east London. Its peculiarity is that staff and customers are all aged between four and seven years old.

The freshly-painted, red and black, timber-framed

shop is set in a "parade" of cloakrooms at the Thomas Abney Primary School, Stoke Newington. A sign above the entrance says Sir Thomas Abney Stores No. 42, in black copper-plate. At a touch of the hand, the door swings open, with a business-like ring.

The stores are the invention of Mr David Evans, the school's headmaster. He wants them to be both a learning resource and a source of amusement for the children.

The most important thing about the shop is that it is real," he said. "What I wanted was realistic detail. It could have been a modern front in aluminium, as long as it was in keeping with the shop fronts in the neighbouring streets."

The shop offers children the chance of using maths, reading and writing in a real situation. They can weigh

food on the scales, give change from the till, make change from the till, make and read shopping lists, and select their purchases according to weight and volume.

Mr Evans was partly inspired by the Russian psychologist Vygotsky, who earlier this century wrote, "Teaching should be organised in such a way that reading and writing are necessary for something." In other words, they should be taught in an interesting context.

The Abney stores may be a grocer's one week, and a cafe, newsagent, or travel agent's the next. The owner may change from Turkish Cypriot, to Jewish Orthodox, or Indian, to reflect the mixed ethnic character of the local shops. The facade was closely modelled on a cluster of mock Georgian shops in one of Stoke Newington's main streets. The props inside, and the notices on the

door — announcing special bargains and opening hours — will be constantly changed.

The stores were designed and built by Mr Joe Tibbets, a former drama teacher, who constructs "learning environments" in schools and the project, which used reinforced glass, and a real door, cost the school £700.

Teaching and the tube

TV AND Schooling contains a series of uneven essays on the basic theme of setting new terms for developing education about television. It takes as its starting point the much publicised DES report on the use of television in schools and the subsequent British Film Institute conference which discussed it.

Emphasis is constantly placed on those sections of the Newson and Bullock report which recommended that television should find a proper place within any school's curriculum. As popular TV and Schoolchildren put it, "Media literacy is a matter for the whole curriculum and should not be seen as a discrete subject."

One television practitioner, Margaret Matheson, who was responsible for commissioning the Birth Of A Nation plays by David Leland while at Central Television — writes: "Let children understand what is going on and why."

It is a laudable sentiment from someone who is jointly responsible for producing millions of pounds' worth of material every year, primarily for the American US market. But Ms Matheson does not practice what she preaches, for she consistently refuses to reveal precise figures on what her programmes cost to make, and how much people pay to buy them.

Anne Hennessey contributes a chapter on the need for teaching television in the nursery and notes that "both television and schooling are powerful sources of children's knowledge of the world."

She says that teachers need to watch popular television programmes, particularly those directed at children, so they can talk effectively with their pupils about them. The old, dominant attitude among teachers that television is irrelevant to education and should be ignored appears to be gradually receding.

TV and Schooling is published by the British Film Institute at £3.95 in paperback.

Who'll get a black spot?

THE bankruptcy and closure of some universities is inescapable unless the Government changes its policy or a lot more universities are found. This is the prediction of Manchester University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor M. H. Richmond.

The annual 2 per cent cut in university funding, plus the shift of resources from universities weak in research to those deemed by the University Grants Committee to be strong, will, he insists, effectively hand a "black spot" to some universities.

"Who will they be?" he asked last week in his report to the Manchester University Court. His answer was "one cannot be sure, but one would tend to look among any which are relatively weak in research and which have been slow to make the necessary adjustments in the period following 1981."

If Professor Richmond thinks some universities or university departments will have to close, he is sure that no university will escape unscathed. He believes the Government is trying to change our university system into an American type, with research universities and non-research liberal arts colleges, and trying to do so with only one year of planning and four years of transition.

CONTRIBUTORS: Martin Lynch, John Fairhall, Julia Hagedorn, Ann Hills, Adriana Caudrey, and Graham Wade.

Senior Lecturer — Advanced Computer Technique Defence ADP Training Centre

The Centre, at Blandford Camp, Dorset is responsible for the professional ADP training of officers and NCOs of the Armed Forces and MOD civilians.

The range of courses covers fundamental professional training, systems analysis and design, and programming. Other courses cover real-time systems and project management. There is an Advanced Course (30 weeks) in preparation for BCS examinations. All courses are residential.

The person appointed will be expected to lecture to all courses (training will be given, if necessary, in particular aspects) and to contribute to the development of the subjects taught.

Candidates should normally have a degree in computer science or related subject, or a relevant qualification, which may have been obtained in the Armed Services, and have had 5 years' broad experience in the application of ADP and preferably be experienced lecturers or be able to instruct. Experience in Project Management, Design Methodologies or the implementation of computer systems advantageous. The ability to speak in public essential.

Starting salary (under review) within the range £13,075-£15,360 according to qualifications and experience. Accommodation may be available.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 5 June 1985) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 468551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/6539.

Ministry of Defence.

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SCHOOL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
(Re-advertisement)

In association with:
ASSOCIATION FOR SCIENCE EDUCATION
NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Secondary Science Curriculum Review

Following the appointment of the current Director, Dr. R. W. West, to a senior post with IEA, applications are invited for the post of

Director

of this well established and funded programme of curriculum research and development. The new director will be responsible for overseeing the completion of current programmes of work, centrally and in association with teaching working groups in over eighty local education authorities in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. In addition he/she will be responsible for the direction of the third phase of the Review, from 1985 to 1989, concerned with dissemination, implementation, and aftercare of the Review to date and for the initiation of policy and strategies for in-service education interpreted in the widest sense.

The successful candidate will be expected to demonstrate:

- ★ a sound knowledge of current developments in secondary education
- ★ a sound knowledge and practical experience of curriculum development and evaluation
- ★ high credibility in the field of science education at all levels
- ★ considerable management, diplomatic, writing, and editorial skills
- ★ a strong commitment to Science for All

It will be possible for the person appointed to be seconded from his/her present position on current salary plus an allowance, otherwise the salary range will be negotiable. It is anticipated that this post would be of interest to candidates currently at the level of Senior Burnham Head Teacher scales (or equivalent).

It is intended to make an appointment as soon as possible.

Application forms and further details from: Mrs Ann Stewart, SCDC, Newcombe House, 45 Notting Hill Gate, London W11 3JB. Tel: 01-229 1234, Ext. 292/3.

Closing date: Friday, 31st May, 1985.

Previous applications will be re-considered.



University of Strathclyde
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

WELLCOME LECTURESHIP IN NEUROPHARMACOLOGY

Applications are invited from candidates under 35 years of age with a degree in physiology, pharmacology or a related discipline, for a Lectureship in Neuropharmacology initially funded by the Wellcome Trust. The successful applicant will be required to teach the physiology and pharmacology of the central nervous system to students of physiology, pharmacology, biochemistry and other biological sciences, and will also be expected to conduct research in neuropharmacology, and to supervise postgraduate research students. Experience in electrophysiology or biochemical techniques would be an advantage. Candidates should submit a 500 word summary of their proposed research for research. Salary on scale for Lecturing staff £7,520-£14,925 per annum. USS benefits.

Application forms and further particulars (quote Ref: 14/85) are available from Staff Office, McCance Building, University of Strathclyde, 16 Richmond Street, Glasgow G1 1XD. Closing date for applications: 30 May 1985.

NATIONAL DAY CAMP DIRECTOR

An energetic and creative person with management experience is needed to lead an established team of enthusiastic full time staff in the promotion of Day Camps for young people. Plans for this summer include 4 camps in the London and Kent area with up to 4,000 children and 120 trained young leaders.

This is an opportunity to combine business experience with a concern for the development of people from the age of 7 to 23. A Christian commitment in accordance with the Aims and Purposes of the YMCA would be essential.

The YMCA would be essential.

If you have a vision for the Day Camp concept and can back it up with previous experience then apply to:

Alex J. Cooke, Executive Director,
General Services,
National Council of YMCAs,
640 Forest Road,
Walthamstow E17 3DZ.

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Part-Time Tutorial and Counselling Staff

Applications are invited for part-time tutorial and counselling staff for the 1986 academic year. Appointments will be made in the latter part of 1985 prior to the next academic year which starts in February.

In 1986 the University will be offering more than 130 undergraduate courses in 5 Faculties, Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Technology and the School of Education. The Centre for Continuing Education will be increasing the range of short professional updating courses it has on offer.

Existing members of the University's part-time tutorial and counselling staff will be sent application forms during May as a matter of course. The number of appointments of new staff will, therefore, be somewhat restricted and will vary between courses and regions. However, some vacancies will exist in all regions of the country. Applicants should be graduates or graduate equivalent. Recent teaching experience in further, adult or higher education is highly desirable.

To obtain application forms and further particulars send a POSTCARD to Deirdre Buck, The Clerk, Tutors Office (C6), The Open University, P.O. Box 82, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AU.

To ensure that your application is considered for the 1986 academic year forms should be submitted to one of the University's Regional Offices by Friday 14th June 1985.

ilea Inner London Education Authority Principal

NORTH LONDON COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the post of Principal of North London College to commence on 1st January 1986.

The college is in Burnham (Further Education) Group 5 and is organised into five departments:

Engineering & Science, Social Services, Creative Studies, General Studies, and Business Studies.

The main premises are at Camden Road, N7 with branches at Burnham, East Road, N11. The College serves the education and training needs of an inner urban, multi-ethnic area of London, particularly Islington, Hackney and Camden.

Applicants should be well qualified academically and possess a sound knowledge of further education, together with administrative experience at a senior level. The Principal's salary is £21,489 per annum plus £1,038 London Allowance.

Further information and application forms (to be returned by 31 May 1985) may be obtained from the Education Officer (EO/IF/4) Inner London Education Authority, Room 257A, The County Hall, London SE1 7PB.

THIS IS A RE-ADVERTISEMENT

ILEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Administrative Assistant Scale 4

Salary £6,555-£7,329 p.a. Plus London Weighting and supplements

required for Brent Young People's Law Centre, 272 High Road, Wileman, NW10.

You will be seconded from Brent Council to work at the Young People's Law Centre. Applicants will need experience in bookkeeping and general office management skills, as well as an ability to work on your own initiative.

Application forms and job descriptions from the Personnel Officer, Room 1, Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex, HA9 9BT, returnable by 7th June 1985. Telephone 01-903 9371 (24-hour Answerphone service). Reference number C/902 must be quoted.

London Borough of BRENT Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer Job seekers welcome.

DUNDEE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

SENIOR LECTURESHIP IN DIGITAL SYSTEMS

Applicants should possess a good honours degree in electrical and electronics engineering or a related discipline, and preferably a higher degree, together with substantial appropriate industrial and/or research experience.

The person appointed will be required to teach on a range of first degree and other courses. He/she will be expected to lead the development of the subject of digital systems at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, which is likely to include the development of hardware and software relating to computer-aided engineering. He/she will also be expected to undertake research.

Salary scale (currently under review): £12,777-£14,164 (bar) — £16,104, with initial placement depending upon approved previous experience. Financial assistance towards the cost of removal expenses may be payable.

Further particulars and application forms are available from the Personnel Officer, Dundee College of Technology, 2nd Street, Dundee DD1 1HS, with whom applications should be lodged not later than 6 June 1985.

Solar Energy Studies SERC CASE STUDENTSHIPS

Applications are invited for:

1. A three year Studentship with registration for the degree of PhD in collaboration with Solar Energy Studies Ltd, Birmingham. The student will be concerned with the preparation and properties of transparent heat mirror films and electrochromic materials for use in energy efficient windows.
2. A one year Studentship with initial registration for the degree of MPhil in collaboration with Solar Energy Studies Ltd, London. The student is concerned with the design and development of a portable integrating sphere reflectometer for measurement of the optical properties of materials used in solar collectors.

Candidates for both posts should hold, or expect to hold, a first or upper second class honours degree in physics, chemistry, materials science, electronics or engineering.

Completed applications, including a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees should be submitted to Dr M.G. Hutchins, Department of Geology and Physics, University of Aston, Birmingham B4 7ET, by 15th June 1985. Further particulars are available on request, ref: 447.

Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computing POST GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Artificial Intelligence

Applications are invited for a Research Assistant to work on developing a program to simulate the behaviour of problem solvers working with incomplete procedural knowledge. The program will form part of a larger system to solve problems in the domain of Newtonian Physics.

Applicants should have a First or Upper Second Class Honours Degree, in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, or a related subject. A working knowledge of PROLOG would be an asset. The successful candidate will be expected to register for a Higher Degree, and to teach up to six hours a week in the Department.

Computer Studies

Applications are invited for a Research Assistantship to develop software for Distributed Control Systems. The work will be in collaboration with members of the Rutherford-Appleton Laboratory as part of the Airedale UNISON project. Applicants should have a First or Upper Second Class Honours Degree with a substantial proportion of Computing.

The Assistantships are available from 1st September, 1985. The starting salary will be on the Researcher 'A' scale (£3,181 - £7,176, under review).

Further details and application forms are available from: The Postgraduate Tutor, Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computing.

oxford Gipsy Lane, Headington, Oxford, OX3 0BP

Telephone: Oxford 64777

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

LENDRICK MUIR SCHOOL RUMBLING BRIDGE, KINROSS

HEAD TEACHER

Applications are invited from qualified teachers who are eligible for registration with the General Teaching Council for Scotland for the post of Head Teacher of Lendrick Muir School which will fall vacant on 31st December, 1985, following the retirement of the present head.

Lendrick Muir is a secondary co-educational residential special school, grant-aided by the Scottish Education Department, for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties. There are at present 32 pupils on roll.

Applicants should have appropriate experience at a promoted level. Further information may be obtained from the undersigned to whom letters of application with the names and addresses of two professional referees and one personal referee should be sent not later than 14th June, 1985, to Miss H. M. Lowe, CA, 41 Charlotte Square, EDINBURGH.

POST-GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS IN IRELAND

As part of an exchange agreement between Ireland and Britain the Irish Government offers two research scholarships leading to a PhD (3 years) or MSc (1 year) to British students who have received a first or second class honours degree and who have already obtained a place at an Irish institution.

Further information and application forms are available from the Irish Embassy in London.

Applications should reach the Embassy by 24 May 1985.

First Secretary (Education)
Irish Embassy
17 Grosvenor Place
London SW1X 7HR

MASTERS DEGREE/DIPLOMA IN SURVEY METHODS

Applications are invited for places on a two year part-time day release course leading to an M.Sc. or a Diploma in Survey Methods. This course is endorsed under the Market Research Society Diploma Scheme. It will provide a theoretical background and detailed practical instruction on all aspects of survey methods including sampling, interviewing, data processing and data analysis.

The course is run by Social and Community Planning Research (SCPR), a survey research institute, in association with The City University.

Applicants should normally possess a first degree or its equivalent. Further details available from: Nick Phillips, SCPR, Survey Methods Centre, 35 Northampton Square, London EC1V 0AX. Tel: 01-258 1885.

Lancashire County Council

An Equal Opportunities Employer

DISTRICT YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICER

Salary: Southbury Youth and Community Service Officers.

Main Range Points 4 to 8, £11,430 — £12,684 p.a. District 4 (Blackpool and Fylde).

Applications are invited for the above post from persons with qualifications and experience in the Youth and Community Service. The District Youth and Community Officer is responsible for the development of youth work in the District, including liaison with voluntary youth organisations and assistance with training programmes, and will be expected to work closely with organisations concerned with community education to provide an effective service. Car allowance and subsistence payable.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Chief Education Officer, Education Department, County Hall, Preston PR1 8PL (Tel: Preston 263697 or 263695). Please quote Ref: A1035/1/PJ and enclose s.a.e.

Closing date: 31st May, 1985.

HUDDESFIELD POLYTECHNIC

in association with HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

RESEARCH ASSISTANT REF: R82

Applications are invited from people with, or hoping to obtain, a good honours degree in Business Studies or other relevant disciplines, to investigate developments in building society branch management, with particular reference to their implications for management development.

The successful candidate will be expected to register for a higher degree with CMAA, and will have an excellent opportunity to gain an insight into the work of the world's biggest building society.

Fixed term appointment — two years.

Salary: £5,161-£5,910 (Researcher 'A' Scale).

Application forms (to be returned by 31 May 1985) and further particulars from the Personnel Office, The Polytechnic, Queensgate, Huddersfield HD1 3DH. Please send SAE.

HUDDESFIELD POLYTECHNIC HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY

Qualified English Teachers

required to work for German private schools in-company training for short periods or on a permanent basis.

Requirements: — University Degree, Teaching Diploma — RSA TEFL Diploma — Practical experience

Knowledge of German and driving licence would be advantageous.

Salaries: Starting at DM 3,600 per month.

Application with cv, photograph, telephone no. Time of availability to be sent to: Mrs. F. Bantander, Euro-Sprachschul-Organisation GbR, Hauptstr. 26, D-8751 Stockach/Main.

Interviews are normally held in London.

Department of Environmental Sciences

SERC CHEMISTRY RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

Applications are invited for a 3-year SERC research studentship in Chemistry commencing in October 1985 and leading to the degree of PhD.

The project will involve the investigation of the thermophysical properties of gases and gas mixtures with an emphasis on the experimental study and computer modelling of industrial and other systems of industrial interest.

Applicants should possess or expect to possess a First or Upper Second Class degree in Physics, Chemistry or an allied subject. They should apply, with cv and names of two referees, to Dr. G. P. Matthews, Chemistry Division, Plymouth, Plymouth PL4 8AA, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Closing date 28 May, 1985.

Plymouth Polytechnic

LECTURESHIP IN THE SCIENCE OF MATERIALS (PHYSICS)

Applications are invited for the above post,

Aston University
SERVICAGE SCHEME RESEARCH PROJECT
CEMENT AND CONCRETE ASSOCIATION SPONSORSHIP

The project involves the crucial relationship between design and construction in house building. An important research aspect will be site monitoring for feedback information. For three years leading to the degree of PhD, the sponsor will enhance the annual SERC grant to around £4,000 (tax free). *Applicants with, or likely to obtain, a minimum 2.1 class degree in architecture, engineering or science should contact: Dr. D. C. A. McLeish, Department of Civil Engineering, Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET, telephone 021-359 3611, ext. 4544/4371.*

The Hatfield Polytechnic

Lecturer II/Senior Lecturer Posts

SALARY RANGE £7,812-£12,363/£11,439-£14,325

It is hoped that all these appointments can be filled from 1 September 1985.

School of Engineering Electronic Engineering

Our Division of Electrical Engineering would welcome applicants with a good honours degree in Electronic Engineering or an allied Discipline, who wish to teach and research in a lively academic community.

We provide courses at subdegree, degree and post-graduate levels, with a bias towards digital systems, information technology, micro-electronics and telecommunications. An interest in the design of microelectronic systems would be of particular advantage but is not essential. Please quote reference 929.

School of Business and Social Sciences

Accounting

Applicants must have a relevant degree, post-graduate degree/or professional qualification and be willing to teach on a wide range of courses and conduct research and consultancy. Expertise is particularly sought in Management Information Systems, Financial Accounting Systems, Auditing, Taxation and Managerial Accounting. Please quote reference 921.

Further information available from R. J. Ryan, Head of Accounting Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

Economics

Applications are sought from well qualified and experienced teachers in Economics who are able to contribute to a wide range of teaching. Applicants must demonstrate an active interest in research but no particular subject specialism is sought. Please quote reference 922.

Further information available from J. C. Adams, Head of Economics Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

Law

Applications are sought from well qualified lawyers with either a higher degree, professional qualification, previous teaching experience, or appropriate previous employment. Candidates should be particularly interested in teaching and research in an area of Business Law. Please quote reference 923.

Further information available from P. W. Parry, Head of Law Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

Social Work

Applicants should be graduates experienced in Social Work and have experience and interest in either Community Social Work or group work in a Residential/Day Care setting. Please quote reference 924.

Further information available from R. C. Parker, Head of Social Work Academic Group, telephone Hertford 558451.

School of Natural Sciences

Temporary Lecturer— Division of Psychology

Applications are invited for a temporary lectureship in cognitive psychology. The successful applicant will be supported on an ESRC grant to assist Dr. Kornblat with degree level lecturing commitments while she is engaged on the project research. An interest in the use of microcomputers for the control of laboratory experiments will be an advantage. Informal enquiries to Dr. Diana Kornblat (07072) 79826.

The appointment is for 10 months from mid-September in the salary range £7,812-£8,727 under review. Please quote reference 925.

Research Assistant in Highway Materials

Salary to £9,174.

Applications are invited for an SERC funded post to investigate the deterioration processes affecting dense bituminous macadam. Candidates should have a higher degree, preferably a PhD, and/or relevant research experience. The appointment is for one year in the first instance commencing as soon as possible. Please quote reference 926.

ALL POSTS:

Application forms and further details from the Staffing Office, The Hatfield Polytechnic, PO Box 109, Hatfield, Herts AL10 9AB, or telephone Hatfield (07072) 79802. Closing date for completed application forms: 3 June 1985.

TRINITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

The College will shortly appoint an Assistant Director of Studies to take up office this Autumn. Applicants who should be Graduates in Music must be capable of assisting in the supervision and co-ordination of the academic work and performing activities of the student body of about 400.

Salary will be on the Burnham Senior Lecturer Scale plus Inner London Allowance.

Full details and application form from the Administrator, Trinity College of Music, 11-13 Mandeville Place, London W1M 6AQ (01-935 5773). Closing date 31st May 1985.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CAREERS OFFICER

Grade: PO1(1) £12,243-£13,326
CAREERS SERVICE, AUEW HOUSE,
FURNIVAL GATE, SHEFFIELD S1 3SL

This is a challenging senior appointment, which carries substantial management responsibilities for the maintenance and future development of this forward looking service. Candidates must have had successful management experience at a senior level and a wide range of experience within the Careers Service. They should also be highly skilled in interpersonal relationships, flexible and versatile and be able to make a significant contribution to the work of the service.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER (REF. ST/PLH), EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEOPOLD STREET, SHEFFIELD S1 1RL. CLOSING DATE 27TH MAY.

City of Sheffield
An Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING PRINCIPAL and VICE-CHANCELLOR

Sir Kenneth Alexander has indicated his retirement to the University Court, and the post of Principal and Vice-Chancellor will be vacant from 31 July 1985.

The Appointing Committee invites any individuals of appropriate experience and background who wish to receive information about the post of Principal and Vice-Chancellor or who wish to propose a successor to Sir Kenneth to communicate with the University Secretary, from whom further particulars are available. Applications should be received by 15 July 1985.

R. G. Somers
University Secretary
University of Stirling
STIRLING FK9 4LA
Scotland, U.K.

UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Norwich

LECTURER IN COMPUTING STUDIES

Applications are invited for the above permanent post in the School of Information Systems. Preference will be given to candidates having appropriate qualifications, experience and research interests within the broad area of Computing Studies. Candidates with a background in software engineering from both a theoretical and practical point of view are particularly encouraged to apply. The appointment will commence on 1 September 1985 or at an earlier date if possible. The salary will be at an appropriate point on the Lecturer scale, £7,812 to £14,325 per annum (under review), plus UK benefits.

Application forms (which should include a full curriculum vitae, including recent date of birth, together with the names and addresses of three referees to whom references may be made, should be lodged with the Education Officer, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, telephone 01603 59171, ext. 2239 from whom further particulars may be obtained, not later than 14 June 1985. No forms of application are sent.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE,
OXFORD

SCHOOLMASTER/ SCHOOLMISTRESS STUDENTSHIP

Tenable at the College in Trinity Term 1986. The Student will reside in College as a member of the Senior Common Room in order to pursue the study of his/her subject. Intending candidates should write for particulars to:

The Senior Tutor
Pembroke College
Oxford OX1 1DW
Closing date for applications is 30 September 1985.

PART TIME TUTORS

A well established private London College requires additional tutors to teach one or more of the following:

Teeline
Typing
Office Practice
Computing
Bookkeeping

Please telephone Trudy Cooper on 01-251 4413 for an immediate interview.

EFL TEACHERS -TELL US WHAT YOU COULD TEACH OTHERS- TONIGHT

Cable and Wireless, the worldwide telecommunications Group, has established a nationwide telecommunications network for the Saudi Arabian National Guard. Training is an integral part of the project at the National Guard's well-equipped training school in Riyadh, where theoretical and practical telecommunications skills are taught.

We can offer immediate and challenging opportunities for teachers aged 30-40, who have a relevant degree and recognised TEFL qualification backed up with practical experience of EFL teaching. Ideally gained overseas. As important as formal education is a patient and tactful disposition and the enthusiasm and ability to communicate

effectively with small groups of Saudi Nationals to help them quickly learn the English they need to understand theoretical and practical telecommunications skills.

The ability to produce effective ESP material particularly at an elementary level and the use of video in language teaching is required.

Contracts are just over 12 months duration on a single status basis and with all accommodation and facilities provided free. The excellent tax free salary of c.£17,000 is paid partly in sterling and partly in local currency, and is based on the current rate of exchange. In addition there are three home leave breaks throughout the contract with all air fares provided.

Phone-in tonight, Tuesday 14th May or tomorrow Wednesday 15th May between 5pm and 8pm on 01-242 4433 for an informal discussion or send full information to: The Recruitment Manager, Cable and Wireless plc, Mercury House, Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8RX.

Phone-in
for tax-free jobs
in Saudi Arabia



Cable and Wireless
Helps the world communicate

IAS

CO-ORDINATOR

The INTEGRATED MATHEMATICS SCHEME is a major calculator-based secondary mathematics project for pupils of all abilities which fulfils teachers' needs in the 80s and into the 90s.

A marketing co-ordinator is needed to promote this exciting scheme to teachers and L.E.A. advisers throughout the United Kingdom.

Based in London, the job requires close attention to detail but also involves a considerable amount of UK travel. A competitive salary, with car, is offered for a two year contract. Experience of teaching mathematics is a distinct advantage.

Please write for further details and an application form to Susan Watson, Educational Marketing Manager, Bell & Hyman Ltd, 37/39 Queen Elizabeth Street, London SE1 2QB.

Bell & Hyman

Moderators

The Business & Technician Education Council requires additional Moderators to work on a part-time basis at National and Higher National levels in all areas of the Council's work, at Further and Higher Education Establishments in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The Moderator helps to establish and maintain the standard of the Council's awards by monitoring the operation, development and vocational relevance of BTEC courses.

BTEC is in the process of establishing a Register of Moderators and would welcome applications from people employed in industry as well as in educational environments. Applicants should have experience in educating, training or employing young people and should be aware of the standards required by employers as well as the aims of the Council.

Some training and support will be provided by our centrally and regionally based staff. Fees and expenses will be paid.

Further details and application form (which should be returned by Tuesday 28th May 1985, at the latest) are obtainable by sending name and address on a postcard to:

Moderator Section,
BTEC,
Central House,
Upper Woburn Place,
London WC1H 0HH.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHERS, KUWAIT



International Language Centres Ltd. invites applications from English Language teachers to join an already established language training team. Applicants should be male, of bachelor status with a degree in any subject and a minimum of two years' previous EFL experience.

The contract is for a one-year period (approx) commencing late August, 1985. The current basic salary, which is tax free in Kuwait, is 365 Kuwaiti dinars per month with increments for qualifications and experience. Return air fares, relocation allowance, terminal gratuity, housing and daily transportation to the teaching site are provided.

Paid holidays are six weeks per year, in addition to Kuwaiti public holidays.

For application form and further details apply to:

Personnel Department,
INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE CENTRES LTD.
9 Cavendish Square, London W1M 9DD
Telephone: 01-580 4351
Re-advertisement. Previous applicants need not re-apply.

General Inspector For Further Education

To have particular responsibility for Education in Prison establishments. Applications are invited for this new post, candidates should be graduates and qualified teachers. Considerable teaching experience in Further and/or Adult Education is essential and relevant professional management experience is desirable. Experience of work in prison establishments would be a considerable advantage.

Salary within Solihull Scale HT9
£15,792-£17,112

Assistance with removal expenses given in approved cases.

Further particulars and application forms, returnable by 24th May, 1985, from County Education Officer (Ref. GP), Springfield, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2JL. Tel: Maidstone 671411, Ext. 2451.



UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Norwich

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS IN SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the following three SERC CASE awards from candidates who have, or expect to obtain, a first or upper second class honours degree or equivalent in chemistry or a related subject and have a particular interest in organic synthesis.

1. Conformationally Locked Bimolecular Nitroalkene Diolates (with Prof. Pharmaceutical Division, Loughborough).
2. Novel Anticancerous Diastereoisomeric Compounds (with Research, Coventry).
3. Three Component Coupling Reactions (with Santa Research and Development, High Wycombe).

Applications, together with the names and addresses of two academic referees and a curriculum vitae, should be sent to Dr. R. J. K. Taylor, School of Chemistry, University of East Anglia, Norwich NR4 7TJ, as soon as possible. Further details can be obtained from the same address.

University of Bristol

SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED URBAN STUDIES ESRC STUDENTSHIPS

1. Linked to the Urban Change and the Restructuring of the City of Bristol Project (Supervisor: Ray Forrest).
2. Linked to the Changing Urban and Regional System Initiative: Swindon Project — on the position of women in the labour market (Supervisor: John Lovering).
3. Collaborative award, jointly with the Audit Commission, on Comparative Cost Indicators in Local Government (Supervisor: Dr. Andrew Evans).

Closing date for applications is 31 May.

For further details please phone Hedy Macaulay, School for Advanced Urban Studies, Rodney Lodge, Groppe Road, Clifton, Bristol. Tel: (0272) 741117.

SOMERSET COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

SENIOR LECTURER IN TEXTILE AND SURFACE PATTERN DESIGN

A new post primarily supporting the Course Tutor in the management and teaching of the BTEC Higher National Diploma in textile and surface design.

Applicants should have specialised in printed textiles in furnishing and/or in surface pattern design and have experience in design practice as well as in design education.

The post calls for proven educational management and administrative skills, teaching experience and the knowledge and initiative to develop industrial contacts, students' work experience and the development of new technology.

Further particulars and application form from: The Chief Administrative Officer,
Somerset College of Arts and Technology,
Wellington Road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5AX
SAE please.

Closing date: 24th May, 1985. Please quote reference G1.

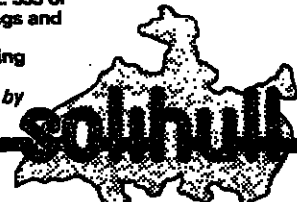
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (Common Services)

P.O. 3(c) £16,674-£17,580

This demanding third tier post, which becomes vacant on 1st July, 1985 calls for substantial administrative experience and a university degree (or equivalent).

The duties of the post at present include overall responsibility for: administration and finance, school government and transport, school meals, buildings and lettings, staffing appointments and the co-ordination of personnel management procedures and accounts/supplies. These duties may be varied to match the needs of the service and the abilities of the successful applicant.

Application form and job description available from Town Clerk, Metropolitan Borough of Solihull, P.O. Box 18, Council House, Solihull, West Midlands B91 3QS. Tel: 021-705 6788 Ext. 535 or 021-705 6672 (evenings and weekends) 24-hour answering machine. Ref. No. CS048. Forms to be returned by 31st May, 1985.



CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS DIRECTOR 1986/7

Applications are invited from people with considerable senior management experience in the education service to direct the Centre at York in 1986/7. The successful applicant will then have one year of preparation for the post.

The Centre has well developed LEA and school links and co-operates closely with industry and commerce through seminars, workshops, publications and curriculum development projects.

The work of the Centre is to collect, study and disseminate good practice. Secondment as Director offers an chance for a person with drive and vision to develop their interpersonal and entrepreneurial skills across a wide brief and make a unique contribution to a fast growing, nationally recognised organisation.

Further details of the post and appointment may be obtained from: The Director, Centre for the Study of Comprehensive Schools, Wentworth College, University of York, York YO1 5DD, to whom completed letters of application should be returned by Monday, 3rd June, 1985.

PRINCIPAL ADVISER

REFERENCE: E/698

Soubury H/T Group 11 £18,159 - £19,509 pa plus
£1,038 London Allowance

Applications are invited for the post of Principal Adviser. From persons with a broad and varied experience of teaching and management at a senior level in schools or colleges and with previous experience in advising in educational authorities or administrations.

The Principal Adviser leads the Council's team of educational Advisers which will soon be 19 in number, covering a wide range of specialist and phase interests. The Department has recently been restructured and three posts of Phase Adviser, who will be especially concerned with the needs of broad age ranges of pupils and students, are being introduced intermediate to the body of general Advisers and the Principal Adviser.

The main responsibility of the Principal Adviser is to advise the Director of Education on the development of curriculum in schools and colleges, to organise the rolling programme of appraisals in schools, to have oversight of the work of the advisory body, the provision of in-service training for teachers, and professional management matters in the Authority's educational institutions. She/he will have overall responsibility for extending and expanding work in promoting the multicultural/equal opportunities educational policy in the Authority's schools, colleges and educational institutions. The postholder will have a clear understanding of policies, and be able to guide and encourage colleagues and teachers to develop and promote an anti-racist perspective in their work. The postholder will be a member of the Department's Senior Management Team.

PHASE ADVISER

PRE-SCHOOL (INFANT AND LOWER
JUNIOR EDUCATION)

REFERENCE: E/834

Soubury H/T Group 10 £16,824 - £18,141 pa plus
£1,038 London Allowance

Applications are invited for this new post of senior adviser (one of three Phase Advisers) to be responsible, in co-operation with other advisers, for the promotion of good educational practice to meet the needs of pre-school, infant and lower junior children. The development of provision for the under fives services, in co-operation with the Social Services Department, will be an important part of the postholder's responsibilities.

We are looking for someone with experience of holding senior responsibility, initiating curriculum development, and organising in-service courses in the field of early childhood education. He/she should be able to demonstrate understanding of, and commitment to, education from an equal opportunities/multicultural perspective.

We would particularly welcome applications from black and minority ethnic groups.

The above posts are NOT suitable for job sharing. Application forms and job description from the Personnel Division, Room 1, Brent Town Hall Annex, Kings Drive, Wembley, Middlesex HA9 9BR, returnable by May 24. Telephone 01-903 0371 (24 hour Answerphone service).

Reference numbers must be quoted.

London Borough of

BRENT Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer

LINCOLN COLLEGE, OXFORD

BURSARSHIP

The College proposes to appoint to the full-time permanent post of Bursar, as from 1st January, 1986. The Bursar, who is an official Fellow and member of the Governing Body, has overall responsibility for the College Buildings and Estates, for domestic and financial affairs, and is centrally involved in College policy, planning and development. Applicants will be expected to have relevant experience in administration, staff management and finance.

Further particulars and application forms can be obtained from the Rector, Lincoln College, Oxford OX1 3DR, to whom completed applications, with the names of three referees, should be sent not later than 1st June, 1985.

YOUTH WORKER (full-time)

Barton Hill Youth Centre,
Barton Hill, Bristol BS5 0AP

Salary: JNC 3(4-8) £8,595-£9,651

Assistance with removal expenses where appropriate.

Applicants should be qualified in accordance with JNC Conditions of Service for Youth Workers and experience of working with 17-24 year olds would be an advantage.

Further details and application form, returnable by 7th June 1985, from Director of Personnel (Tel: Bristol 295585) or from this number after office hours, P.O. Box 270, Avon House, The Haymarket, Bristol, BS99 7HE.

Avon is an equal opportunities employer.

Community Leisure Department.



BULMERHIE COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Required for 1 September 1985

LECTURER II / SENIOR LECTURERS in

COMMUNITY & YOUTH WORK

(Temporary, one year)

[2 posts]

To work primarily with the 2-year Certificate Course and contribute to in-service training in the region.

Applicants for full-time or part-time appointment will be considered.

One post involves responsibility for developing and contributing to teaching race issues and ensuring the course meets the needs of black students.

Experience of work of Afro-Caribbean and Asian groups is important.

One post involves responsibility for developing and contributing to teaching gender issues and ensuring the course meets the needs of women students.

Experience of work with girls and women's groups is important.

Further particulars and application forms from The Deputy Principal, Bulmerhies College of Higher Education, Woodlands Avenue, Early, Reading RG6 1HY. Tel: Reading 0734 663377.

Completed forms to be returned by 24 MAY 1985.

Berkshire County Council is an equal opportunity employer.

BOROUGH OF SOUTH TYNESIDE

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

CAREERS SERVICE

TEAM LEADERS (Schools / Colleges)

S.O.1 £9,477-£10,107 p.a.

Applications are invited for the above post from experienced Careers Officers who hold the Diploma in Careers Guidance. The post is based at South Shields, and carries supervisory responsibility for a team of Careers Officers under-taking work in the school and college settings. The team includes two Careers Officers, a Specialist Careers Officer (Special Needs), and two Part-time Careers Officers financed via T.V.E.I. The post itself has a caseload responsibility commensurate with the supervisory nature of the post.

Application forms and further details are available from the Chief Personnel and Management Services Officer, Westoe Hall, Westoe Village, South Shields, (tel. no. 554969) and should be returned by noon on 31st May 1985.

صلى الله عليه وسلم

Posts Overseas

Key English Language Teaching Scheme

The KELT Scheme is part of Britain's aid programme to developing countries:

Malawi

Post: Adviser in Primary Teacher Education, Blantyre Teachers' College

Duties: to advise English Departments in all Primary Teachers' Colleges on the best ways of teaching the syllabus and of using existing materials; to be responsible for on-going staff training and for helping English Departments to function effectively; to advise the Ministry through Inspectors on all aspects of ELT in the Teacher Training Colleges and to help with moderating national examinations and continuous assessment for these Colleges; to teach a maximum of 8 forty-minute periods a week at Blantyre Teachers' College.

Qualifications: candidates must have a degree plus a PGCE, preferably at Primary level, one year postgraduate TEFL qualification and five years' teaching experience, including three years overseas, and preferably primary teacher training.

Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a.

Overseas Allowances: £NL-£1,994 p.a. depending on salary level and marital status.

Reference: 85 K 6

Pakistan

Director of Studies, National Academy of Higher Education, University Grants Committee, Islamabad

Duties: the National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE) caters for the training needs of in-service tertiary level teachers. The postholder working in a joint course director, will be responsible for the directing of a diploma course in the teaching of English as a Foreign Language. The course will cover the various fields involved in the areas of ESL/EFL. The postholder will assist participants with their practical assignments in the second phase by seeking groups in regional centres; to conduct seminars/workshops as required. Qualifications: candidates preferably aged 40-55, should have a first degree plus an MA or PhD in ESL/EFL or Applied Linguistics and 5-10 years' relevant experience, including five years overseas (preferably in the sub-continent) and teacher training in a college or university. Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a.

Allowances: £NL-£1,994 p.a. depending on salary and marital status.

Reference: 85 K 10

The following posts are also funded under Britain's programme of Aid to developing countries:

Turkey

Post: English Language Teaching Adviser, Department of Foreign Languages, Karadeniz University, Trabzon

Duties: to train and upgrade the English Language Teaching Staff of the English Department in modern teaching methods and techniques, with special reference to service English; to develop ESP materials based on a needs analysis of 17 departments to run language improvement courses for staff when required; and to teach general and/or ESP

classes of students for six hours a week. Qualifications: candidates, preferably married with children of school age at post and aged 25-50, should have a first degree in English or Modern Languages, an MA in Applied Linguistics and a minimum of five years' TEFL experience overseas. Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a.

Overseas Allowances: £NL-£1,994 p.a. depending on salary level and marital status.

Reference: 85 K 4

Uganda

National Teachers' College, Ngetta

Posts: 1. Head of Physics

2. Head of Mathematics

Duties: 1. To be responsible for the academic, professional and administrative work in the respective departments including teaching methods, curriculum development, examinations, practicals, teaching practice supervision, books and equipment, budgeting and in co-operation with the Director and Ministry of Education to select students and appoint staff.

2. To liaise with the Ministry of Education, the National Curriculum Development Centre, the Faculty of Education at Makerere and the National Teachers' College at Kyambogo in order to influence reform in the subject throughout the National Teachers' College system.

3. To participate in the definition of appropriate training for a counterpart. Qualifications: candidates preferably male, aged 35-55, must be UK citizens with a British educational background. They should be single or married without school-aged children at post. They should have a first degree in an appropriate subject, a professional teaching qualification and five years' experience of secondary-school teaching in Africa. Experience of teacher training is desirable. It is hoped that the candidate would be able to offer a second related subject in addition to the first subject.

Salary: £11,563-£16,158 p.a.

Allowances: £477-£5,869 per annum depending on salary level and marital status.

References: 1. Head of Physics 85 K 7

2. Head of Mathematics 85 K 8

General Qualifications: for all of the above Aid funded posts candidates must be UK citizens with a British educational background.

Benefits: salary free of UK income tax; free family passages; children's education allowances and holiday visits; free furnished accommodation; outfit allowance; medical scheme; baggage allowance; employer's contribution to a recognised superannuation scheme or an allowance of 11% of salary in lieu.

Contracts initially for two years with the British Council. Posts tenable from September 1985.

Closing date for applications: 3 June 1985.

For further details and an application form, please write, quoting the post reference number to the Overseas Educational Appointments Department, The British Council, 90-91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT.

The British Council

Inner London Education Authority

Divisional Education Officer (Division 8) Southwark

Salary: £21,933-£23,661 (Including London Weighting)

Following the retirement of the present post holder applications are invited for this senior post.

LEA schools and the education welfare service are organised in 10 divisions. Divisional Education Officers carry major responsibility for the interpretation and implementation of the Authority's policies.

Candidates should be skilled administrators with wide knowledge and experience of the education service. The successful candidate will be able to make a direct and important contribution to the quality of education in Inner London.

Application forms and full details of the post are available from Establishment Branch (Personnel Services Division) (EO/Estab.1b), The County Hall, London SE1 7PB. The closing date for return of completed applications is 7 June 1985.

LEA is an EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE Adviser - English

Soulbury H.T. Group 9, £15,792 - £17,112 p.a. plus £1,038 London Allowance

Applications are invited from experienced teachers for the post of Adviser for English. We are looking for someone with a range of successful teaching experience, evidence of curriculum development work and experience in service training.

The English Adviser is responsible for English, Drama and the Language Development in its widest sense which includes a role in the School Library Service and in the important area of English as a Second Language. He/she will work with a team of Advisers led by the Principal Adviser and the Senior Phase Adviser, and will participate in the programme of School Appraisal.

The successful candidate will have an understanding of and commitment to the Borough's anti-racist and equal opportunity policies. This is a re-advertisement. Previous candidates will be considered.

Application forms and job description from the Personnel Division, Room 1, East Town Hall Avenue, Kings Cross, London WC1E 6BT, returnable by 7 June. Telephone 01-958 0571 (24 hour Answering Service). Reference number 9547 must be quoted.

London Borough of BRENT

Brent is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

KIDDERMINSTER COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

PRINCIPAL

This post has become available due to the retirement of the present Principal at the end of the current academic year. A Group 4 general college of further education, it has particular connections with the carpet industry, offering a B.A. Honours degree course in the design of carpets and related textiles.

Salary within the range for a Group 4 College (at present £18,975 to £20,154).

Application forms and further particulars obtainable from: The Clerk to the Governors, Kidderminster College of F.E., Hoo Road, Kidderminster, Worcs. DY10 1LX, to whom completed forms should be returned by 31st May 1985.

Hereford and Worcester County Council

TAKING A JOB OVERSEAS.

If you are considering applying for a job abroad you should, in your own best interests, investigate fully terms and conditions of employment and ascertain restrictions that apply to your country where the post is offered before acceptance.

GARVALD

A Full-time Home, School and Teaching Centre (Postholder) is seeking people (over 21) with some experience, for residential work with teenagers with mental handicaps. Write to: The Secretary, Garvald School, Dornoch, West Caithness, Orkney Islands IV24 7JL.

RGIT

ROBERT GORDON'S INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, ABERDEEN

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for this post, which became vacant on 1 May 1985 on the appointment of the holder as Director Designate of Bath College of Higher Education.

RGIT is the largest and most polytechnic of the Scottish Central Institutions, with a student FTE of 3700. Courses are conducted in Faculties of Arts, Science and Technology in a wide range of subjects.

Applicants must be graduates, preferably with a Higher Degree, and have had substantial experience at a senior level in the provision of courses in higher education. Experience in industry or commerce and in research will be an advantage.

Salary £23,885, subject to periodic review.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Secretary to the Institute, Schoolhill, Aberdeen AB9 1FR, with whom completed application forms should be lodged by 24 May 1985.

Financial Accounting and Auditing

Lecturer II/Senior Lecturer to teach professional accountancy students at higher levels. We are seeking a qualified accountant with professional experience. A degree would be useful.

Salary scale, inclusive of local allowance: £7,806-£14,319

For details and application forms please send a SAE to the Vice-Principal.

Slough College of Higher Education, Wellington Street, Slough SL1 1YG. Closing date 14 days.

An equal opportunities employer.

Slough College

The POLYTECHNIC WOLVERHAMPTON

Applications are invited for the following posts in the School of Computing and Information Technology:

Lecturer II / Senior Lecturer in Computing

Temporary Lecturer II in Computing

Temporary Demonstrator in Computing

Lecturer II / Senior Lecturer in Mathematics/Statistics

Temporary Lecturer II in Mathematics/Statistics

Researcher A in Computing

Salary Scales: Researcher A - £5,910 - £25,405

Demonstrator - £5,910 - £20,512

Lecturer II - £7,548 - £19,088

Senior Lecturer - £11,175 - £14,081

Further details and application form from The Staffing Office, The Polytechnic Wolverhampton WV1 1SB or telephone Wolverhampton (0902) 710654 (ansaphone).

LANCASHIRE POLYTECHNIC AT PRESTON

Faculty of Business and Management

School of Administrative Studies

Principal Lecturer

(Ref AA/227) to assume responsibility for the co-ordination of course development activities leading to (a) a major degree programme and (b) Dip.H.E. in the areas of Administrative and Office Communication Studies.

Lecturer II

(Ref. AA/228) (Re-advertisement) with a general and/or office management background to teach Management Skills across the courses located within the School.

School of Organisation Studies

Research Assistant in Industrial Relations

(Ref. AA/229) Required to work on an ESRC funded project from September 1985 for a period of 3 years. The research is concerned with the dynamics of joint consultation in practice, and it will focus on a small number of organisations.

Applicants should possess a good degree (or equivalent) in a relevant subject, and a Masters degree in Industrial Relations or Manpower Studies would be advantageous.

Informal enquiries to Mick Marshington.

School of Economics

Senior Lecturer in Economics/Industrial Placement Tutor

(Ref. AA/230) Applicants should be capable of teaching in one or more areas of Economics preferably to degree level, and will join a team responsible for finding industrial placements and preparing students for these placements.

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer II in Business/Managerial Economics

(Ref. AA/231) Applicants should be capable of teaching business or managerial economics to degree level, and should have experience of the operations of business organisations.

School of Management Sciences

Lecturer II in Quantitative Business Analysis

(Ref. AA/232) Temporary one year appointment from September 1985 to teach quantitative methods on a wide range of CMAA and BTEC courses.

Lecturer II in Marketing

(Ref. AA/223) (Re-advertisement) To teach marketing on CMAA degree and BTEC diploma courses and to contribute to an extensive programme of marketing consultancy. Salary Scales (under review)

Principal Lecturer £13,085 to £14,588 (Bar) to £16,487

Senior Lecturer £11,175 to £13,128 (Bar) to £14,081

Lecturer II £7,548 to £12,089

Research Assistant £9,406 to £17,175

Application form and further details obtainable from the Personnel Office, Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston, PR1 2TQ, Tel. (0772) 282027 quoting the appropriate reference number.

Closing date: 4th June 1985.

LANCASHIRE POLYTECHNIC AT PRESTON

Humberside County Council

Applications are invited for the post of Senior Catering Officer (001222)

Southbay Senior Range (points 16-20) £10,715-£11,889

EDUCATION CATERING SERVICE - FULL DIVISION

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons with wide experience in the catering industry, preferably including a period in the Education Catering Service. This post offers opportunities for professional growth, enthusiasm and management skills in one of the four divisions of Humberside and the successful applicant will work as a member of the County Catering Team. Candidates should hold a recognised qualification in catering, such as the City & Guilds Certificate in Catering, or an HND in Catering or an allied subject.

Closing date: 31st May 1985.

To obtain application forms please write, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope, to the Director of Education, Humberside County Council, 100 Victoria Road, Hull HU1 1BA.

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

SERC Case Studentships and Research Assistantship in Organic Chemistry

Applications are invited for the following grants in the Department of Chemistry:

(a) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(b) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(c) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(d) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(e) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(f) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(g) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(h) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(i) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(j) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(k) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(l) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(m) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(n) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(o) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(p) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

(q) SERC CASE STUDENTSHIP in collaboration with the BOCU and the SERC. The project will involve the synthesis of novel pre-organised approaches to the synthesis of complex organic molecules.

University of Stirling

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING SCIENCE

Lecturer and Research Assistant posts

These two new posts have become available as a consequence of recent support for research from both Ayr and Stirling. The successful candidate will be responsible for a new MSc in Software Engineering and the SERC.

Appointments will be made at the appropriate point on the following Scales:

Lecturer: £7,520 - £14,585 (under review)

R.A. £7,520 - £12,150 (under review)

Exceptionally for suitably qualified candidates appointments may be made on a higher scale.

Anyone wishing further information should contact Professor PETER HENDERSON, Computing Science, Telephone Stirling (0776) 73171 extension 2759, to whom applications should be made as soon as possible and in any case not later than 31st May, 1985.

Northern College

TUTOR/ORGANISER FOR SHORT COURSES

The College wishes to appoint a Tutor/Organiser to assist with the planning, organisation and teaching of a wide range of short courses, residential short courses for adult students. Candidates should have experience of teaching and/or organising in the above areas. Preference will be given to candidates qualified to teach in one or more of the following areas: Modern History, Social Studies, Development Studies, or Welfare Studies. Salary on the University Lecturer's scale £10,335 to £12,150, plus a £1,000 per annum allowance for the University.

Supernumerary Scheme. Further particulars are available from: The Registrar, The Northern College, Warrington, Cheshire, WA9 7JL. South Yorkshire, E16 2ET, to whom applications should be received by 31st May, 1985.

EFL TEACHERS

Now is your chance to work in a friendly, professional school (APESL) 4+ week periods-June to September (accommodation: arranged). Several permanent posts for 35-36 academic year, RSA or equivalent essential.

Contact: Ica School, PO Box 15, Exeter, Tel: 039259342.

Christ Church College Canterbury

Applications are invited for the following posts in the English Language Teaching Unit of this post-graduate College of Higher Education:

LECTURER GRADE 2

To teach English, TEFL, Methodology and Applied Linguistics to postgraduate students. Applications should be sent to the Unit Director, English Language Teaching Unit, Christ Church College, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3AG.

LECTURER GRADE 1

To teach English Language at all levels up to Cambridge Proficiency. Applications should be sent to the Unit Director, English Language Teaching Unit, Christ Church College, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3AG.

For both posts candidates should have a minimum of two years' experience in teaching English as a Second Language. They should also have a minimum of two years' experience in teaching English as a Foreign Language. They should also have a minimum of two years' experience in teaching English as a Second Language.

Salaries: Lecturer Grade 1 £5,910 to £12,152; Lecturer Grade 2 £7,548 to £12,089 (currently under review). Closing date May 31st. Applications (by letter with the names of two referees) enclosing full CV, to, and further details from: Director, ELTU, Christ Church College, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3AG.

TEACHERS

are required to teach EFL by INTER-STUDIO VIAGGI in their courses at:

CHELSEA COLLEGE, TRAMES POLY, WOOLWICH; AVERY HILL, ELTHAM; MERCHANT NAVY COLLEGE, GREENWICH; TRINT, ROYAL ROYAL COLLEGE, BISHAM, SURREY; ROYAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, CIRENCESTER; THE UNIVERSITIES OF READING AND KEELE; AT TWO CENTRES IN EDINBURGH AND CLONMEL; AND WESWOOD COLLEGE, N.A.S. EIRE.

Applicants must be free from July 1. Courses run for 2 weeks, 3 weeks and longer at some centres.

Please send CVs and names of two referees to Director of Studies: Mrs A. McCarthy, 30, Sandringham Road, Perivale, Middlesex UB8 7AG.

EXPERIENCED AND TEFL QUALIFIED SUMMER COURSE DIRECTORS

TEACHERS required for residential and day stay courses with adults, teenagers and juniors, late June-August in South West England.

Further details and application forms from: REGENT SUMMER SCHOOLS, 4 Ferry Street, London W1P 8FA. Tel: 01-636 9602/3.

Qualified EFL TEACHERS

Required for summer courses for foreign students in Glasgow, Wales and Home Counties; also for children in Central London. Accommodation provided in many cases. Also responsible for Headteachers / Administrators required.

Contact: Kensington School of English, 4, Russell Gardens, London W14 7LJ. Tel: 01-608 2180/3928.

ITALY

Qualified experienced graduates for summer courses in Italy. For details write to: Mrs A. McCarthy, 30, Sandringham Road, Perivale, Middlesex UB8 7AG.

EFL STAFF REQUIRED

are leading in-service training courses for teachers in the following areas: English Language Teaching, English as a Second Language, English as a Foreign Language, English Literature, English History, English Geography, English Science, English Mathematics, English Art, English Music, English Physical Education, English Religious Education, English Social Studies, English Citizenship, English Health Education, English Environmental Education, English Career Education, English Personal Development Education, English Life Skills Education, English Values Education, English Character Education, English Citizenship Education, English Social Responsibility Education, English Global Education, English International Education, English Inter-cultural Education, English Multi-cultural Education, English Diverse Education, English Inclusive Education, English Accessible Education, English Flexible Education, English Responsive Education, English Proactive Education, English Preventive Education, English Promotive Education, English Supportive

RESEARCH/RESEARCH AWARDS

Leicester University

EARMARKED STUDENTSHIPS IN CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the following "Earmarked" S.E.R.C. Studentships leading to the degree of Ph.D.

(i) "Design and Synthesis of Novel Enzyme Inhibitors" supervised by Dr. P. M. D. Smith. The project will involve the synthesis of novel nucleoside analogues as potential inhibitors of important phosphatases and nucleoside transferases. The project will provide training in synthesis, modern instrumentation particularly high-field NMR, and analytical techniques such as HPLC.

(ii) "Quantitative NMR Studies of the Dynamic Behaviour of Macromolecules in Solution" supervised by Dr. O. L. Turner. This will involve the development of techniques for obtaining and analysing high-field NMR spectra to enable the conformational behaviour of enzymes and multimeric exchange in model systems. Applicants should have experience in NMR spectroscopy and computer programming and will receive training in modern NMR techniques and their application to pharmacology.

Candidates should hold or expect at least a 2:1 degree in Chemistry or a related subject. Applications including a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, or, if possible, a letter of recommendation, should be sent as soon as possible to the relevant member of staff, Department of Chemistry, The University, Leicester LE1 7RH.

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING ENGINEERING

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS

Applications are invited for three SERC research studentships tenable for three years from October, 1985 as follows:

(a) A quota studentship for fundamental studies of the rheology of solid polymer electrolytes in a controlled atmosphere at very low shear rates.

(b) A quota studentship with BP Research Centre Ltd. to determine the influence of rheology on the stability of oil well cement slurry systems.

(c) A quota studentship for research in any area of Building Engineering, including: structural analysis and design, transmission, thermal services, environmental and control, thermal response, timber framed joints and the management of the construction process.

Candidates having interests in other fields are also welcome to apply.

Applicants must hold or expect to obtain a first or upper second class honours degree in a relevant subject, or a BSc (Hons) in Materials Science for projects (a) and (b). Building Engineering for project (c).

Applications, together with the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to: The Registrar, The University, P.O. Box 147 Liverpool L69 3GB. Quote Ref: NV/20/85.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED ZOOLOGY

SERC RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP

(CASE award with SERC)

Experimental Station

Applications are invited for the above studentship, tenable for up to three years from October, 1985.

The work will be concerned with the general lack of methods other than differential culture for recognition of ultrastructural variation within those plant parasitic nematodes that have agronomic significance. The postgraduate will develop techniques and analytical approaches to overcome this problem using species and races within the genus *Ditylenchus*. Periods of research will be spent at both the University and the Department of Zoology, Rothamsted Experimental Station.

Applicants should have, or expect to graduate with, good Honours degree in Agricultural Zoology, Zoology, Genetics, or an appropriate biological science. They should send their applications, citing three scientific referees, to Dr. H. J. Atkinson, Department of Pure and Applied Zoology, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT (Tel. 0532 431761, Ext. 380), from whom further particulars are available. The closing date for applications is June 17, 1985.

ELECTRONICS RESEARCH AT THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Applications are invited from candidates with a second degree or equivalent qualification in an appropriate subject to undertake a full-time research degree in the Electronics Department of The Open University.

Research projects are available in a range of subjects including: Telecommunications (Digital Systems, LANs, Video, TV, Satellite, TV, Man-Machine Interface, Robotics, Computer Vision and Graphics, Computer Design, Micro-Processing, Signal Processing, and Filtering and Adaptive Systems, andputer-Aided Design, Learning and Manufacturing).

The Electronics Department has modern laboratory facilities and many industrial contacts. Based in the OU campus in the new city of Milton Keynes. Suitable qualified candidates may be eligible for an electronic studentship.

For further particulars and application forms send a POSTCARD to the Open University, Office, The Open University, PO Box 49, Milton Keynes MK7 6AD, or telephone Milton Keynes 0908 653561 or 052541. Please quote reference TE/1.

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible.

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

Research Studentships in Technological and Organisational Innovation

Applications are invited for Research Council and Open University funded studentships in the Technology Faculty in the following areas:

Practice and management of design and innovation in manufacturing.

Worker co-operatives and co-operative design.

Science, technology and production development.

Science parks, technology transfer and innovation.

Human centred production technology.

Technology and third world development.

Applicants for these studentships should hold or expect to obtain a second degree in a relevant subject.

For further particulars and application forms send a POSTCARD to the Open University, Office, The Open University, PO Box 49, Milton Keynes MK7 6AD, or telephone Milton Keynes 0908 653561 or 052541. Please quote reference T.O. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

INSTITUTE FOR TRANSPORT STUDIES

RESEARCH OFFICER

Applications are invited for a post of RESEARCH OFFICER in the above Institute for work on two projects (1) an examination and development of the Priority Assessment Technique (PAT) and (2) the Improvement Project (supported by SERC) for the distribution of Local Government expenditure.

Salaries are available from July 1, 1985, for a fixed term of three years and three months, however, to work only on project (1), in which case the appointment would be for a fixed term of two years.

A good honours degree, a relevant quantitative discipline (e.g. Economics, Geography, Operations Research) and PhD or equivalent experience, preferably in local government, are required.

Initial salary within the range £7,520-£9,590 (under review) on the 1A scale for Research and Academic Staff, according to age, qualifications and experience.

Application forms and further particulars are available from the Registrar, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT. Closing date for applications June 6, 1985.

University of Nottingham

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

TRACE ELEMENTS IN COAL LIQUEFACTION EXTRACTS

A Research Fellow is required to investigate the nature of the trace elements in coal liquefaction extracts using modern analytical techniques. The two year project is funded by the SERC and the applicant will be a Chemist with PhD and relevant experience of the required techniques. Ref No. 950.

BATCH PROCESS COMPUTER AIDS

A Research Fellow and a Research Assistant are required for the development of model-based digital computer aids for process design. Chemical engineers with industrial experience are preferred. Support is under a research contract with Warren Spring Laboratory of the SERC. The Fellow should have a PhD and a background in process design, simulation and other relevant areas. The Assistant will be a Chemist with PhD and relevant experience of the required techniques. Ref No. 950.

Salaries are on scales RAA (Fellow) and RAIB (Assistant) at points depending on age and experience.

Further particulars and application forms, returnable not later than May 15, 1985, may be obtained from the Staff Selection Officer, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Please quote relevant reference numbers.

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS IN ENERGY STUDIES

Applications are invited for Research Council funded studentships in the following areas:

Research and development of innovative, Vapour cycle wind turbine for applications in the USA and Europe.

Energy resources, including oil and coal recycling.

Solar energy and renewables.

Energy and planning.

Housing and transport as specific demand sectors for energy modelling.

Principles and policy in energy conservation.

Energy from biomass: vermiculture.

For further particulars and application forms send a postcard to:

The Higher Degrees Office, The Open University, PO Box 49, Milton Keynes MK7 6AD or telephone Milton Keynes 0908 653561 or 052541. Please quote reference T.O. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

DEPARTMENTS OF PURE AND APPLIED ZOOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Applications are invited for the above post to join an interdisciplinary research initiative into the molecular basis of plant-nematode interactions. The work will involve biochemical and immunological techniques.

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DEPARTMENTS OF PURE AND APPLIED ZOOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Scale 3 Appointments

NORTH CHADDERTON SCHOOL, Chadderton, Oldham OL9 0BN.

SECOND IN ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Required for September, 1985, an experienced graduate to be second in a large and successful department, with particular responsibility for the organisation and monitoring of mixed ability teaching in Years 1-3.

The results of the department are excellent and English is a popular subject at 'A' level. Drama is taught at all levels, including the Sixth Form and the school has a first-class reputation for its productions.

THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL, Horsedale Street, Oldham.

HEAD OF MUSIC

Required for September, 1985, at this 7 Form entry Church of England Comprehensive School.

Music is taught up to and including 'O' level and the school has a good tradition of musical activities. There is a band, orchestra, choir and a staff / student choir.

Please apply by letter directly to the Head at the appropriate school (including full c.v. and names and addresses of two referees no later than the 24th May, 1985).

Scale 1 Appointments

ST ANSELME'S R.C. SCHOOL, Grange Avenue, Oldham.

MODERN LANGUAGES TEACHER

Required from early June 1985, to teach mainly French to years 1-3. Ability to offer German would be an advantage.

This post is temporary to the 31st December, 1985.

MATHEMATICS TEACHER

Required for September, 1985, to teach across the full ability range in this 11-18 school.

COUNTHILL SCHOOL, Couthill Road, Oldham.

METALWORK TEACHER

Required for September, 1985, to work in a materials and design based craft department.

An ability / interest in Art / Photography would be an advantage.

Application forms (s.a.e. please) for the above three posts from the Head at the appropriate school returnable to him / her by 24th May, 1985.

HOLY FAMILY R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL, Lime Green Road, Limeside, Oldham OL8 3NG.

JUNIOR TEACHER

Required for September, 1985, to teach an Upper Junior class.

Applicants will be expected to contribute to the development of Mathematics within the school. Interest in boys games an advantage.

Practising Roman Catholic preferred.

Application forms (s.a.e. please) from the Head at the school returnable to the Rev. G. O'Donnoghue, Holy Family Presbytery, Roman Road, Limeside, Oldham OL8 3PY, by 31st May, 1985.

BREEZE HILL SCHOOL, Roxbury Avenue, Oldham.

DRAMA TEACHER

Required for September, 1985. This post is temporary to 31st August during the secondment of the permanent post holder.

Please apply by letter to the Head at the school no later than 24th May, 1985.

Oldham Metropolitan Borough Education Committee

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

KENT

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

THE DUKE OF YORK'S ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT BOARDING SCHOOL

470 BOYS 11-19

ENGLISH

Due to promotion to a deputy headship, a well qualified teacher of English is required for January, 1986, or earlier, if possible, to lead the English Department and to coordinate the activities of the recently formed Humanities Faculty.

Applicants must be prepared to commit themselves fully to Boarding School life and the ability to offer a variety of non-academic activities will be a distinct advantage.

Salary Burnham Scale 4 plus a very generous Boarding School Allowance. Both married and single accommodation is available at a fair rent.

Relevant information about the School and further details of the post, including an application form, may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary, The Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, Kent CT16 5EQ (Telephone: 0304 260312 Ext. 25).

The Civil Service is an Equal Opportunities Employer

CHELTEMHAM COLLEGE

(HMC Independent School, 550 pupils)

PHYSICS

throughout the school in new, first-class laboratories. Experience in industry, technology or microelectronics would be an asset and contributions to the extra-curricular life of the school would be welcomed. The post would be suitable for a first teaching appointment. Salary by negotiation.

Please apply with curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Headmaster.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

OUNDS SCHOOL

Required for September, 1985, or January, 1986, dependent on availability.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

to take charge of a large and successful Department. Accommodation is available to both married and unmarried staff.

Applications, including the names of two referees, should be sent to:

The Headmaster, Oundle School, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4EN.

THE ABBEY SCHOOL, READING

DIARY

IT WAS West Yorkshire's turn yesterday to experience the whirlwind that is Edwin Currie, the noisy Conservative member for Derby South.

Staff at BBC Radio Leeds were struggling to cope with the aftermath of the Bradford fire — the biggest story to hit West Yorkshire for some time — when a harbinging arrived. He was a local Tory polytechnic student announcing that Mrs Currie was in the area and would very much like to be interviewed. A message was sent back saying that there was no-one around to interview, but thanks anyway.

Mrs Currie appeared in person at the station shortly after lunch, demanding an interview. She was told over the intercom that it could not be arranged. There was a squawk of "Right, I'm coming up," and the station's news editor was despatched to tend off the invasion.

The argument that ensued was fierce. It climaxed when Mrs Currie seized the hapless BBC man's arm and demanded: "Do you want me to vote for an increase in the licence fee? The station manager eventually persuaded her she was wasting her time. We will have to follow the Hansard voting records with care.

THE remorseless campaign by Mr Tony Banks, Neucham MP, to turn up examples of alleged extravagance within the Department of the Environment has uncovered the annual cost of running Mr Jenkins's official car — £28,800 — as well as the sum spent last year on three-piece suits for DoE ministers — £1,713.

THE CND badge continues to arouse unbecomingly strong passions. Buckinghamshire's chief librarian, Mr Roy Collis, has threatened disciplinary proceedings against Mrs Margaret Horn, a district librarian due to retire shortly, if she persists in wearing her badge during working hours.

Devon CND has meanwhile invited local Tory MP Sir Frederick Bennett to join up, having read his recent pamphlet, "Rebels Under the Bed?" In it Sir Frederick lays into infringements of civil liberties in East Germany, citing the action of East German school teachers in refusing to allow pupils to wear UN badges, or even badges reading "Swords into Ploughshares." Just like Devon County Council and CND badges, in fact.

STAFF at the Central Office of Information have — imagine it! — become the latest recruit to the cause of freedom of well-informed information. The COI Branch has tabled a motion for next week's annual conference calling for the repeal of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act and congratulating Clive Ponting on his acquittal.

A SCOTTISH publisher, Labrum, has been seeking to advance the cause of Christian feminism — freeing the Feminine, by Elspeth and Gordon Strachan. The book was well reviewed and Labrum thought it would be nice to try to have it promoted during Feminist Book Fortnight. Well, it would have been nice, but the FBF organisers turned it down. Gordon may be a feminist, but he's also a man.

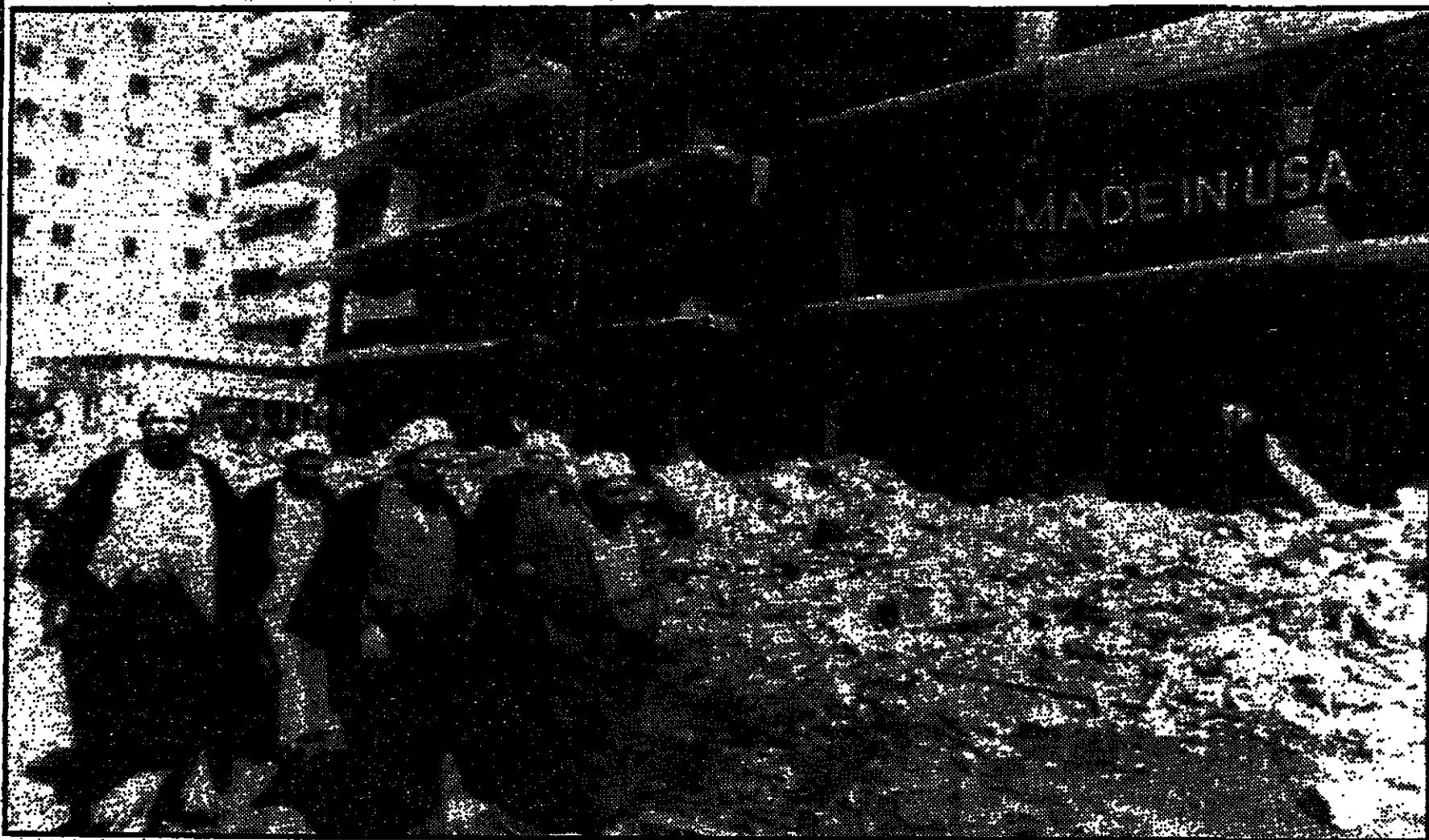
BRITISH AIRWAYS is about to unveil a new range of aircraft. It appears that no location in Britain will quite do, and so BA is to fly the British press to Nice for a launch in the Eden Beach Casino in Cannes. Depart 10 a.m., back at 7 p.m.

JOHN POWLEY, Tory MP for Norwich South, appears not to be blessed with the strong grasp of logic. Without his reply to a letter from him expressing anxiety about the surveillance of CND: "I have been told," runs Mr Powley's letter, "that the CND themselves keep a file on their members and use it to target them. If that were true, that would constitute an infringement of personal liberty and a dangerous practice, especially in view of some of the undesirable people who claim to be members of the CND, but it doesn't worry me one little bit."

Nice one, John.

"THE Falklands Now the Most Exciting Place in the World" — A front page headline in Falkland Islands Newsletter.

Alan Rusbridger



Above: The March 8 car bomb havoc in a Beirut suburb. Right: William Casey, head of the CIA

ALEX BRUMMER reports from Washington on the background to the 'dirty tricks' campaign launched in the Lebanon

Why the CIA primed the blast of terror

THE disclosure of a CIA link to the car bombing which killed 80 people in Beirut last March has predictably provoked an outcry in Congress and among critics of President Reagan who are always looking for reasons to bash the unattractive CIA director, Mr William Casey.

The carelessness in Beirut is naturally being equated with other blunders, including the mining of Nicaraguan ports and the infamous assassination manual which surfaced in the heat of last year's presidential election. This is the view of Admiral Stansfield Turner, director of the CIA in the Carter years, who believes that Mr Casey's "misreading of signals eventually led to US humiliation during the hostage crisis which didn't end until a President who had committed himself to a war on terrorism took the oath of office.

Indeed, many intelligence experts argue that the only way to deal with terrorism is to use wartime techniques. In the aftermath of the Beirut bombing of October 22, 1983, when 241 marines were killed, the administration's natural inclination was to retaliate, using the forces at

its disposal offshore. It allowed the battleship New Jersey to unload its fearsome 16-inch shells on areas of the Lebanon believed to be occupied by the perpetrators — the Hezbollah (Party of God) group — and attempted at least one direct air-strike.

But within the US, the Congress's Vietnam syndrome was playing havoc with Secretary of State George Shultz's determination to exact revenge. It became impossible for the US to directly involve itself militarily under the threat of the War Powers Act and at a time when it was taking heat from its partners in the multinational peacekeeping force. There was a search for alternative ways of striking back at the enemy and it was Bill Casey's CIA, which was dragged into the conflict almost by default.

With no overt means of striking back at those forces which had murdered marines in their bunks and left the Reagan administration's Middle East policy in tatters, the CIA was called upon to

develop a counter-insurgency operation in the country — the kind of technique which other intelligence organisations use with impunity.

For Casey's CIA, however, the options were severely limited. Congressional mandate prevents the CIA from "doing a James Bond," as one Washington intelligence expert put it yesterday. The agency is legally banned from conducting assassinations, and indeed the smell of its involvement in such plans, as the row over the Central American manual stated, can be politically explosive.

This meant that the CIA, to be in a position of hitting back at the terrorist group responsible for the marine attack and other bombings of American targets, had to work through established groups operating in the Lebanon. It is now clear from Bob Woodward's authoritative reporting in the Washington Post and subsequent confirmation on Capitol Hill and in the administration that one of these groups went rogue. As a result, it

ended up killing 80 people and injuring scores of others, but not Hussein Fadlallah, whose extreme fundamentalist organisation, the Party of God was conducting a highly successful campaign against any American role in the Middle East.

It is easy to argue that the CIA should have never been there in the first place. But it is also easy to understand the frustration of an administration which has rallied publicly against terrorism, but had been the victim of too many attacks without successful reprisal.

As Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a former member of the Senate Intelligence Committee with a sound sense of moral values, pointed out yesterday, "My personal view was good luck oversight. It had always assumed that the CIA would be working with intelligence and other groups in the region in pursuit of American interests.

The Israelis, among others, have learned there are particular risks in getting involved in the Byzantine

world of Lebanese politics, intelligence, and terrorism. Indeed, the case can be strongly made that someone in the administration should have warned President Reagan more clearly of the potential hazards of reprisals and counter-insurgency in such an environment. However, CIA-backed operations in the region may have worked and may still be working — except the public wouldn't know about them because of the refusal within the administration to talk publicly about intelligence matters.

Indeed, one of the more intriguing questions about the Woodward disclosure is how did they find their way into print in the face of this intelligence ban. In the view of Dr Robert Kupperman, an intelligence and terrorism expert at the Georgetown Centre for Strategic and International Studies, the leak and others like them reflect the policy debate going on within Casey's CIA.

In Dr Kupperman's view, the quality of Woodward's information on this occasion

and last year, when he disclosed details of the group behind the attack, could have only come from the CIA. The information was so accurate it could have only come from within the agency itself. Dr Kupperman observes that the leaks provide those within the CIA, seeking to limit its activism in the Middle East with a way of getting their message across.

Such disclosures suggest that Mr Casey, far from having stamped his liking for adventurism in far-off lands all over the agency, is still encountering pockets of strong resistance from those who believe in greater restraints and more emphasis on analysis than covert operations. So there are internal pressures within the CIA which are still acting as a counterweight to the worst excesses of Chile and a dozen other places in the Nixon era. If activism is restrained, as recent successes against Libyan plots in Sudan and Chad demonstrate, it is not always evil even though it remains risky and dangerous.

information on this occasion

The good look that sees no evil

IN THE WORK of the security services, state power is seen at its most dangerous. It is uninvited. What MIs get up to is, from the point of view of the citizen, a closed book. Only the aberrant cases — a Michael Bettaney, who cracks up and tries to defect, or a Cathy Massier, who leaves the service and blows the whistle on phone-tapping — provide a glimpse into some of the pages.

Occasionally, as with these two, they offer a lesson in the culture, as well as the facts of security: a lesson which there is another opportunity to act on later this week.

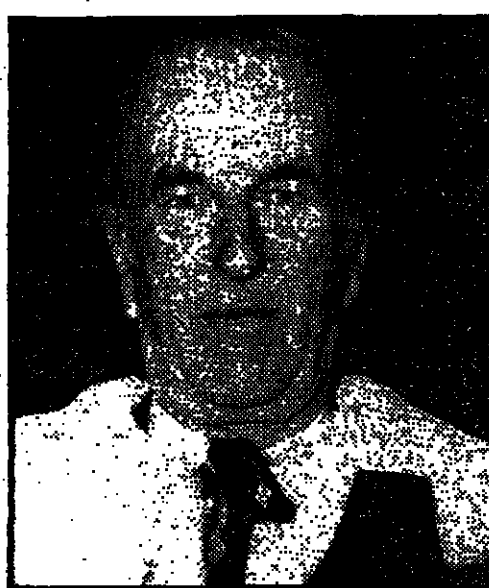
The politicians, of course, deny that there is no invitation. They say that they provide it. Ministers are the citizen's guarantors against both inefficiency and inappropriately by the security men. And behind ministers stands Parliament. The Prime Minister reporting to Parliament, as she has just done, on the Bettaney case, ensures, she would contend, proper democratic control over abuses of state power.

Upon inspection, however, this reporting seems to be of limited value. Not only is it hedged about by a desperate reluctance to answer questions, but these questions, when posed, are all too often fished by a cute rebuttal. Everything that is now done, the Prime Minister says, was also done under previous governments.

Since Labour governments refused to answer questions, Labour oppositions have no business asking them. Further, to lock the door on all inquiries, the SDP-Liberal Alliance is also implicated. It is not an SDP peer, Lord Harris of Greenwich, whose off-the-cuff definition of subversion in 1977 is now the locus classicus.

Rarely can the citizen have been more aware of government as a kind of conspiracy. There are the governors, all of one mind and one record, whatever their party. And there are the rest of us, virtually defenceless, with the opposition neutered and the government clinging righteously to silence.

But ministers are not indifferent to the problem this raises. We are not exactly in Czechoslovakia. They want to appear to be fulfilling democratic requirements. So instead of answers, they offer something else. Trust us, they say, and trust the system we monitor. Trust MIs, on which we impose severe discipline. Trust the Security Commission, four great and



Left: Lord Harris. Right: Lord Justice Bridge

COMMENTARY

Hugo Young

good and decent men. Trust Lord Justice Bridge, his chairman, who also looks after phone-tapping.

So the question is: is such trust justified? Can government in this area where the culture of generations permits it to shelter in secrecy, be relied on to behave, as least as well as it behaves where scrutiny is less easily evaded?

With some reason, the Thatcher Government claims to be able to answer yes to that question. Mrs Thatcher has been unusually open in discussing security breakdowns. Through the cases of Blunt, Prime and now Bettaney, Parliament has been told more than it knew about aspects of the secret world. To the extent that this has demystified that world and opened its foetid air, thick with unwhispering obsequies, to ventilation, it can only be beneficial.

These breakdowns, however, are not the limit of the citizen's interest. He clearly has a very large interest in efficient security. The damage done by traitors, and the threat posed by incompetent security, can be enormous. But when we talk about investigation, it's not entirely because this might improve working practices. It has more to do with the old-fashioned fear that absolute

power may be just slightly corrupting.

As the story of an organisation in which we are invited to repose our trust on account, the Security Commission's report on MIs and Bettaney is not encouraging. It shows an agency prepared to tolerate massive drunkenness and unreliability in one of its own, and even to promote him. This was very bad for security. It is also quite bad for any hope that were an officer to err not against security but against liberty — say, by engaging in illicit surveillance — there would be the smallest expectation of his being disciplined.

Another strand in the same pattern is provided by the account of how Bettaney was unmasked. This resulted from the evidence of two junior operatives who went to his superior. They are rightly commended. But contrast this with what happened when Ms Cathy Massier, troubled by excesses of a different kind, went to her superiors. Because her anxiety concerned a point about liberty — the illicit use of phone-tapping — and not about security, she was sent to a Harley Street psychiatrist as a preliminary to leaving the service.

A still larger cloud hangs

over this question of trust. Plainly, MIs does not deserve it. But is the Security Commission any better? Is even a particle of its concern reserved for the threat MIs's zeal may pose to liberty, as distinct from the threat its incompetence poses to security?

It must be doubted. The commission has published a good few reports. It seems to meet often — 17 meetings on Bettaney alone — but always with a view to tightening up security rather than asking questions about anyone's rights, save, possibly, those of members of the security service itself. In exercising his most specific libertarian responsibility, moreover, Lord Justice Bridge has been a pathetic failure. As the man in charge of the rules about phone-tapping, he has managed to find not a single error of judgment and not one case of unjustified surveillance in the more than 6,000 taps which Home Secretaries have authorised.

But the vortex of mistrust

has lower still to go. Ministers say trust us. Except in their fevered concern to streamline and re-streamline MIs's management, they give us no reason to do so. Neither Home Secretary nor Prime Minister shows the slightest public awareness that power may occasionally corrupt. They point to a battery of rules which define good conduct. Like their predecessors they refuse to admit that these are ever broken. Thus does the lack of accountability turn democratic politicians into mouthpieces for a species of authoritarianism.

This is the context the House of Lords should consider. It begins debating the Interception of Communications Bill on Thursday. The bill provides for a tribunal of lawyers to deal with suspicions of unlawful interceptions. Its terms of reference ensure that this body will be a charade. An amendment will be moved to secure some form of parliamentary oversight.

As with all novelties, Whitehall does not like straw men abroad in face case it makes for resistance. The incredulous questions are easily formulated. With proposals for more freedom of information, the question is usually something like: are you seriously saying that the details of yesterday's Cabinet meeting should appear verbatim in tomorrow's papers? When parliamentary oversight of the secret world is suggested, it is just as far-fetched. For example: Would you really trust Denis Skinner with the names of MIs's trade union network?

A measure of parliamentary oversight would, of course, involve nothing like that. I can see at least one particular task it would perform: removing from the closed minds of MIs directors the definition of what constitutes subversion, and subjecting it to the light of public discussion in changing circumstances. There could hardly be a topic more suited for political, not bureaucratic, decision.

The real purpose, however, would be wider. It would be to say to government on behalf of the citizen: "We do not trust you. You have given us no reason to do so. You are hand in glove with the agencies you are supposed to question on our behalf. This is how it always is when power is not scrutinised. Even decent people are corruptible. It is time for Parliament to make it a little more difficult for you to tell quite so many lies."

MARTIN WALKER reports from Moscow on a Russian growth industry

The seeds of a revolution

FOR the average Russian city-dweller, it looks as if the first symbol of the Gorbachev era will be an allotment. The Politburo has authorised a series of measures designed to increase the number of private gardens, to provide the gardeners with seeds and garden tools — and to produce a heavy boost to the state's production of fruit and vegetables.

In a way, the government is simply catching up on a boom which has been sweeping the country for some years. At Moscow's private markets, now spring is here, the busiest stalls are the ones selling seed packets. In the past three years, 5,000 shops have been authorised to start stocking goods for private gardens — and these have already proved too few for the soaring demand.

On Sunday evening, just before 6 p.m., gardeners throughout the country tune in to Nash Sad (Our Garden) for the weekly tips. A professor of soil chemistry tells you how to rotate vegetable crops for best results, and in keeping with the Soviet passion for official expertise, Mrs Surganova shows how best to arrange your flowers once you have grown them.

The search for an allotment is taking Muscovites further and further afield. It was only last year that a fairly prestigious engineering research institute received its land allocation. It was over 80 miles from Moscow, on poor land that had been lying waste. And yet, such was the rush among the staff, that people were limited to plots of 20 square metres.

Part of the popularity of these allotments is explained by the passion for dachas — country cottages. To buy even a modest one within easy range of Moscow will cost over 10,000 roubles, and a dacha with three rooms and a kitchen and a decent garden will cost nearer 30,000 roubles. One Moscow acquaintance, who ten years ago bought her dacha for 6,000 roubles, has now been offered 25,000 roubles for it. It contains two rooms and a kitchen.

The allotment is the cheap option. Once it has been dug, planted, and harvested, the owner is allowed to put up a garden shed — and, with a

little creative interpretation of the rules, a shed can become a small dacha.

The state has a register of over five million allotment-holders, and estimates that they contribute each year over a million tons of fruit and vegetables to the Soviet diet. They also produce poultry, rabbits, honey — and a considerable proportion of the "samogon," home-produced vodka, which threatens to outflank the state's planned crack-down on alcoholism.

The Politburo decision to help the private gardener has been accompanied by a series of encouraging articles in the Soviet press on the social benefits of the allotments.

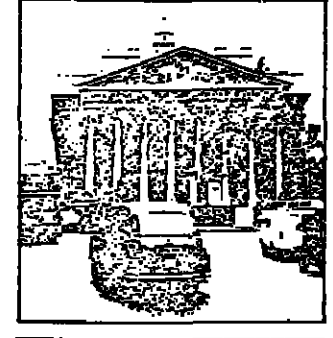
A private allotment can be a licence to print money in a country with such a deep-rooted passion (doubtless fed by long winters) for flowers. A ten-square metre garden of daffodils will be worth up to a thousand roubles when sold by the bunch at the Moscow stations.

The Politburo decision also endorsed an experiment that has been under way in two of Moscow's rural districts — to allow the cooperative farms to hire their mini-tractors and specialised tools to private gardeners at weekends.

So far, the Soviet propaganda system has yet to recall that old British slogan — "Dig for Victory." But with the current passion for wartime nostalgia, it can only be a matter of time.



Wellcome in the markets, of course, but there are costs as well as benefits



NOTEBOOK

Hamish McRae

WHAT — aside from money — can a public donation give to a corporation enjoying some form of trustee ownership?

The vast bulk of companies seeking the status of a public quote fall into two groups: small or smallish private companies wanting money to expand; and large companies which are part of the public sector and are being privatised.

But there is a third group, of which the Wellcome Foundation is one, where a substantial company seeks a quote because its owners in some way or other are unhappy with the existing arrangement.

Politics aside, most usually there are two reasons for public floats. One is the desire of the owners to release capital for investment elsewhere (or in the case of the government to reduce taxes). The other is that the enterprise itself needs to raise more funds to expand. If you look at most normal floats the motive is some combination of the two. British Aerospace's latest issue is an excellent example of this dual function.

How does Wellcome fit into this pattern?

The nearest recent analogy to Wellcome is probably Reuters, where the company was owned by a trust whose members needed to realise some of their investment. In simple financial terms it was not prudent for the newspaper's owners to hold such a large proportion of their total assets in one enterprise.

There were other advantages, to be sure. An important one was that the company needed to find another source of investment funds than ploughed-back profits. But the need for the owners to release capital was paramount.

The other slightly similar case would be the proposed float of the Daily Telegraph group, where the overriding motive is to raise funds for new investment.

In each case the owners have sought to retain control of the enterprise, so that there is no direct impact of the change in ownership on existing managerial aims and aspirations. In other words the owners want shareholder participation in ownership without ceasing shareholder participation in management. Some investors are happy to go along with this; others object.

In the case of Wellcome the twin motives are very much there. The trustees, perfectly sensibly, want to reduce the eggs in the one basket. (If you want an example of a trust which was tardy in reducing its investment in the original enterprise, look at the Nuffield Foundation. Its reluctance to cut its investment in the old British Motor Company now limits the fund's charitable work.)

And the trustees can reasonably argue that Wellcome could advance more quickly if it were, as a public quoted company, able to borrow against the security of the quote.

So you can see powerful reasons for the change to

take place. You could further argue that the foundation receives a pretty tiny dividend considering its worth. Since it gives this away for research, the medical research community as a whole would presumably benefit from some divestment.

But having trekked through the arguments, the fact remains that there may be some costs. Maybe the fact that this newspaper is owned by a trust colours the viewpoint. But it does seem a reasonable proposition that ownership by some form of trust enables an enterprise to enjoy a freedom from commercial pressures which makes it possible for it to take a significantly different view of its goals, than a company having to keep a weather eye out for shareholder response to each set of interim profit figures.

What Wellcome has done brilliantly — and it has not stopped it from being a large and successful enterprise — is developing drugs which have enormous social value, but limited commercial value. Compare the social impact and profitability of Valium (developed by the utterly commercial Roche) and the vaccines for tropical diseases (developed particularly by Wellcome).

If you want a personal example of the value of Wellcome, check the foreign travel jobs recorded in your passport, and you will probably see the Wellcome name stamped there.

None of this is to say that Wellcome is now going to reinvent the tranquilliser variety of the value of Wellcome, check the foreign travel jobs recorded in your passport, and you will probably see the Wellcome name stamped there.

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Bullion for us

MIND you, nationalisation has its uses. Whatever judgment you make about the nationalisation of Johnson Matthey Bankers, the Bank of England does now possess a valuable asset, in its bullion house and banking subsidiary.

We tend to forget that the nation now owns JMB and accordingly MPs who should know better fuss about the way the Bank keeps on putting money into it. In fact while you can reasonably criticise the process by which we all, via the Bank, became owners of JMB, it is illogical to criticise the Bank for lending its own subsidiary money, or as yesterday, preparing to fatten it prior to sale.

JMB is not one of the City's most glittering prizes, in banking terms, but come a gold boom (perfectly possible as the dollar slides) it could become extremely attractive to any would-be entrant into London bullion circles. Money put into it now merely increases the value at sale.

The Bank has taken a lot of stick for its handling of the whole matter. To redeem itself it has to do two things. The first is to run JMB so brilliantly that the enterprise is worth a lot more in a year's time when it comes to be sold than it is now.

The second is to get out there on the hustings and sell it in the most determined and vigorous way.

For the record, to break even it needs first to get back the £100 million it has put in, plus interest. It needs another £65 million to cover the indemnities. Anything over £180 million and we show a profit.

Capital injection as bad debts confirmed at £245m Bank wants £100m-plus for JMB

By Peter Rodgers, City Editor

The Bank of England is to inject £100 million capital into Johnson Matthey Bankers, as a prelude to selling it back next year to the private sector for a price it expects to be at least as high.

The Bank also confirmed that Johnson Matthey's bad debts were £245 million, to which it will contribute £32.5 million under an indemnity scheme to which a group of banks will contribute a further £32.5 million.

This brings the Bank of England's total involvement in the rescued bank to £100 million capital plus £32.5 million under the indemnity scheme together with the funding costs of the capital until the even-

tual sale. However, it said it "expects its £100 million investment to be returned intact when the Bank's present involvement comes to an end."

The £245 million of bad debts brought about the collapse of JMB last autumn, followed by its rescue by the Bank of England. The bad debts included large sums owed by traders involved with Nigeria and other Third World countries as well as funds lent to entrepreneurs such as Mr Mahmoud Sipra, a US businessman.

JMB's problems were brought about by inadequate control and an over-concentration of injudicious loans, said the Bank, which added that other parts of JMB's business, including gold bullion continue to trade profitably.

Although the Bank acknowledged that there could be changes in the total of bad debt provisions, it said it thought the £245 million was adequate. Of the debts, £225 million have been discovered since the collapse and the Bank of England is understood to be considering suing JMB's auditors, Arthur Young McLellan Moore. Initially there were doubts about whether the Bank could sue, as it was not the client.

The cleaned-up balance sheet together with the attractions of owning one of the elite groups of London gold bullion houses are the Bank of England's strongest cards in achieving the £100 million plus price it wants for JMB. There have been number of expressions of interest in purchasing it, but nobody has got down to details.

The Bank said that the new capital "does not involve a fresh commitment of resources since the provision of new capital has been discovered since the collapse and the £100 million made by the Bank of England in November 1984 to be repaid."

However, in political terms what amounts to an exchange of the deposit for permanent risk capital is likely to be taken by parliamentary critics as undermining the Bank's case that the £100 million last autumn did not put additional public funds at risk.

SIP leader David Owen, a leading critic of the Bank of England's handling of the affair, is likely to point to the fact that £132.5 million of public money will now be either committed or at risk in JMB.



Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Bank governor

PCW losses put at £100m

By Mary Brasier

LOSSES for the 1,500 names on Lloyd's syndicates managed by the former PCW underwriting agency are now running at a minimum of £77 million.

The names on the Syndicates yesterday learned that on top of £60 million they already owe, there is an estimated further deficit of £17 million to be met as a result of bad underwriting.

Last year, a further £40 million of losses were paid on their behalf by the syndicates' ultimate owners, Minet Holdings, and others, because money to meet them had been plundered from the syndicates. The total loss incurred by PCW syndicates since 1979 may now be as high as £130 million.

The news brought a unanimous response from 85 per cent of names who attended a meeting yesterday at the Festival Hall. They are refusing to pay this year's £60 million cash call until they have considered their own independent accountants' and lawyers' reports.

They have raised £1 million with the option to call on another £2 million for a fighting fund.

A steering committee headed by Lord Goodman has already been formed to consider the possibility of suing both Minet Holdings and PCW (now renamed the Richard Beckett Underwriting Agency).

They have asked accountants Price Waterhouse to go through the RBUA accounts and the RBUA's own accountants to examine how the syndicates' losses were re-insured.

Names on the three syndicates hardest hit—£18, £40, and £157—have been told to find £80 million by the end of June to meet losses on the 1982 account.

But even if they pay up, they could still face another £13 million in respect of underwriting carried out in 1983, and £4 million for 1984. The figures—especially the total for 1984—are still only estimates of what the syndicates might eventually owe when the losses become payable in 1986 and 1987.

According to RBUA: "The figures are very conservative; they underestimate potential profits and overstate losses."

The Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Marlborough and Lady Annabel de Rothschild, who were among the names invited to the mass meeting. They did not attend.

A widow from Cheltenham, Mrs Anna Marshall said: "Lloyd's built a reputation for decency, but we are being treated shamefully. They have failed to protect the members. I stand to lose my home and I have no family to turn to. It's scarring."

Landowners will be selling farms up and down the country to help to pay the deficit. In the last year, from an average £200,000 up to £1.2 million.

The five syndicates in trouble were managed by PCW Underwriting Agency, a direct subsidiary under investigation by the Department of Trade. Last summer, members narrowly escaped misfortune when they were compensated for £40 million allegedly misappropriated by former executives.

Profits buckle in package tour business

By Michael Smith, Industrial Editor

Profit margins narrowed again last year in the highly competitive package holiday business, with seven of the 30 leading tour operators falling into losses.

Figures from the Civil Aviation Authority show that Britain's 30 leading tour firms earned a combined profit of only 3p in the pound from total revenue of almost £18 billion. A year earlier firms made 3.9p in the pound.

The CAA, which oversees the tour industry, say that while earnings from the profit-making enterprises rose in 1984, the sharp rise in losses cut back the net result.

Total losses by tour companies more than trebled to £10.7 million in 1984 from £2.9 million a year earlier in the face of large-scale over-capacity in the industry and fierce price-cutting.

The increased losses confirm earlier fears that 1984 was the worst year on record for package tour firms, with a record 20 company failures last year affecting 20,000 holidaymakers.

The CAA's result for 1984 would have looked worse, but the losses suffered by firms which collapsed during the year were not included in the final tally.

There are fears that 1985 will prove even worse, with bookings down, over-capacity still apparent and a price-cutting war inevitable.

Meantime, the CAA reports that total revenue of the companies rose by nearly £400 million to £18.5 billion last year and combined profits of the industry grew by slightly under £4 million to £64 million.

After deducting the heavy losses made by some firms, the net result was a combined profit of £53.3 million against £55.3 million.

C. H. Beazer raising £22m to cut debts

By Andrew Cornelius

Mr Brian Beazer, the ambitious chairman of C.H. Beazer (Holdings), the fast-expanding property and house-building group is asking shareholders for £22.2 million to help reduce debts after a frenetic period of growth.

Beazer's debts have risen fivefold from £9 million to about £45 million since July last year, after a series of acquisitions which have strengthened the group's position in the UK house-building market.

The £33.5 million takeover of M.P. Kent, the house-building group, last October, followed by the £26 million takeover of William Leech, the Newcastle house-builder, this year, are largely responsible for the increase in borrowings.

Beazer is offering 5.98 million new shares at 350p per share on a one-for-four basis.

Maryland probes savings

From Alex Brummer in Washington

State and federal officials yesterday began an examination of the books of Maryland's 102 state chartered savings and loans following a run on Old Court, the state's second largest institution.

The move by the authorities to take control of Old Court and to check the books of other savings and loans appeared designed to head off a statewide run similar to that at Ohio in March.

The state authorities yesterday went to court and were successful in obtaining a "conservator" to take control of the savings and loan's assets. In the meantime depositors, who have been camping outside the institution over the weekend, were limited to withdrawals of \$1,000 per person.

Old Court is the second largest savings and loan in the state, with assets of \$839 million. The run on the institution followed press reports of management changes and appeared to be fuelled by concern that the state chartered savings banks in Maryland could be facing an Ohio-scale crisis.

The state governor, Mr Harry Hughes, has prepared papers which would allow a state takeover if a criminal investigation of the savings and loan's affairs.

De Lorean trustee sues for \$1 million

By our Industrial Staff

The trustee of the failed De Lorean Motor Company has filed a suit against 10 individuals and companies seeking more than \$1 million (£230,000) in assets that allegedly were illegally diverted from the firm.

The suit, filed in the Detroit Bankruptcy Court, claims that lawyers who successfully defended John De Lorean, the company's founder, were paid \$830,000 from the sale of De Lorean motor cars after the company began bankruptcy proceedings.

Mr De Lorean was also accused of cocaine-smuggling.

The suit also claims that an additional \$288,000 from the sale of cars after the bankruptcy filing went directly to De Lorean and his former wife, Christina Ferrare.

De Lorean filed for bankruptcy in October 1982 in order to reorganise his company under court protection from creditors. However the firm has since gone into liquidation.

The suit is the latest filed by bankruptcy trustee Mr David Allard to regain corporate assets allegedly diverted from the De Lorean Motor Company.

Mr Sheldon Toll, a lawyer for the trustee, said De Lorean did not have any motor assets that could be used to pay the estimated 600 creditors.

"The only assets of the company are those that could be recovered through these lawsuits," he said. Claims initially totalled about \$700 million, but not all had proved valid.

Finlan gets approval for \$3m Eurobond issue

By Andrew Cornelius

The dollar funds raised by the issue are to be converted into sterling to finance developments in the UK. Top of the list is a high technology and industrial development on a 15-acre site adjoining Luton Airport. Finlan paid £2 million for the site and will shortly start work on a £1 million first-phase development. Finlan is also planning to develop a 100-acre site at Middleton, near the motorway in Manchester.

Mr Rhode, the Californian property developer who last year replaced born-again Christian Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey in the driving seat at Finlan, has ambitious plans for housing developments in China. He is also seeking backing for a new scheme to build "continuing care" housing for elderly people. The aim would be to pioneer the development of flats and houses close to a nursing home, he said.

Dollar's rapid slide

By our Financial Staff

The dollar slid rapidly yesterday against the pound, and within sight of its all time high. Shares and gilts were helped by the money allocated by institutions to British Aerospace, much of which is now available for investment again following the oversubscription.

A report from the National Westminster Bank yesterday said that bank rates should fall to about 10 per cent by the end of this year and to 9 per cent by the end of 1986.

The Financial Times 30 share index had one of its best recent rises, up 15 to 1016.9 and within sight of its all time high. Shares and gilts were helped by the money allocated by institutions to British Aerospace, much of which is now available for investment again following the oversubscription.

NatWest in \$1bn floating note issue

By Peter Rodgers

NatWest yesterday topped its banking rivals by launching the world's biggest-ever floating rate note issue for a private sector company, of \$1 billion.

This is \$250 million bigger than the similar issues announced recently by Lloyds and Midland, and like these it counts towards the bank's primary capital. It will be treated as preference share capital if NatWest ever gets into trouble.

Bank shares continued to rise yesterday because the stock market has been given new confidence in banking prospects as a result of the rapid injection of capital over the last couple of weeks, now totalling 2.9 billion for Lloyds, Standard Chartered, Midland, and NatWest.

NatWest shares rose 10p to 674p. The notes are perpetual, in other words they have no redemption date, and they have provided an easy way for the banks to increase the amount of capital which backs their loan books.

NatWest's "free capital ratio" — the amount of money it has of its own to back each £100 of loans — rises from £4.50 to £6 after the completion of the new issue, which is split into two equal series. The interest rate is a quarter per cent over the London Interbank Mean for dollars, making it slightly cheaper for the bank than the Lloyds issue.

Burmah up £60 million

By Geoffrey Gibbs

More than £60 million was added to the stock market valuation of Burmah Oil yesterday as hopes of a takeover bid from Gerald Ransome's Heron Corporation sent the shares to a new peak.

Heron, which has a 4 per cent stake in the oil exploration, Castrol lubricants and specialty chemicals company, met the Burmah directors at the end of last month to raise the possibility of a takeover.

Burmah said at the weekend that it could not see any benefits in an amalgamation with Heron, but added that the board would consider any offer and respond to it in the light of the company's prospects.

Mr Ransome, in the United States on business, the Heron camp was yesterday maintaining a steadfast silence about its takeover intentions. But as speculation about a bid intensified in the City, the Burmah share price surged from 258p to 300p, putting a value of over £430 million on the group, rescued from the brink of collapse 10 years ago, boosted profits from £65 million to £70 million during 1984 and is continuing to press ahead with a restructuring programme designed to concentrate activities on its core activities.

SE vote date set

By Peter Rodgers

The crucial vote on the future of the Stock Exchange will be on Wednesday June 5, after a meeting of all members to be held on the floor of the exchange.

The exchange yesterday published two key resolutions to be put to members which allow 100 per cent outside ownership of the exchange and set out the way members' shares in the exchange itself will be traded.

The abolition of restrictions on outside ownership, the key to reform of the stock market, is a relatively simple ordinary resolution.

But the shareholding question, which has led to intense debate among smaller members anxious to get recompense for the opening of the exchange to outside competition and the abolition of minimum commissions, is continued in a long special resolution.

The main changes announced last week as a concession to intense pressure from smaller member firms are modifications to the shareholding requirements for smaller members, a reduction in the maximum voting power of larger members from 5 per cent to 3 per cent, and the dropping of plans to put a £2,000 ceiling on the value of shares in the exchange itself.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

SHARES IN CLIVE DISCOUNT

rose 6p to 65p in expectation of a tie up with the big US broking firm Prudential Bache. A deal may involve shareholding in Clive by the US firm, and a joint company to operate in the new gilts market. But a Bache spokesman refused to confirm the talks and said only: "If we are having discussions with someone I am not at liberty to discuss them. I really don't have anything to add at this point."

Clive is a medium-sized discount house, one of the firms which act as the hub of the money markets, dealing in bills. It has long been rumoured as a bid target, as one of the few remaining independent firms of any size. The two biggest, Gerrard & National and Union, have declared that they wish to remain independent.

TRAFALGAR HOUSE

the shipping and construction group, has taken a 14.9 per cent share stake in French Kler, the international contracting group, for £2.9 million to add to its portfolio of investments in the sector. These include holdings in Higgs & Hill, the building group, and Haden, the lift and air conditioning group. Last night Trafalgar extended its £37 million takeover bid for Hayden, where the management have put forward a rival £55 million offer.

Wellcome joins the ranks of capitalism

By James Erlichman, Chemicals Correspondent

The Wellcome Foundation, the only major drug company in the world owned exclusively by a charitable trust, is to go public early next year.

The trustees of Wellcome confirmed yesterday that they intend to sell 20 per cent of their shares on the London Stock Exchange to raise an estimated £250 million.

The news brought dismay to many within the medical research community who believe that Wellcome's public charitable status has given it

the intellectual freedom to focus its research more on therapeutic need than commercial gain.

Last year Wellcome, which is a leader in vaccines and the latest, anti-cancer research, earned trading profits of £100 million on sales of £806 million. The profit margin of strictly commercial drug companies like Glaxo and ICI was more than twice as high.

But this relatively lacklustre profit performance is hardly likely to dent City enthusiasm for Wellcome's share sale. All drug companies must be brought at a premium and the

floatation is likely to put a £1.5 billion price tag on Wellcome's entire share capital.

The company was founded 105 years ago by an American from the Mid-West, Henry Solomon Wellcome, who moved its base to Britain and was knighted in 1932. Sir Henry was a keen explorer who took particular interest in the tropical diseases afflicting the world's poor.

His trustees vowed yesterday "to retain a strong controlling interest in the Foundation." They will sell no further shares for two years, will not

reduce their holding below 50 per cent, and will attempt to prevent anyone else gaining more than 10 per cent of the company.

This year the trustees will make awards from their dividends of around £20 million toward pure medical research, unconnected with Wellcome's own drug development. But they believe they will have more money to donate if they do not have "all their eggs in one basket." In a veiled attack on the government's research grants, the trustees' chairman, Sir David Steel, said that new funds were badly needed.

The new commercial mood blowing through Wellcome may have been evident to insiders for some time. Within the last year the company has lost the services of two of the most brilliant and prolific drug researchers in the world, Sir James Black and the Nobel Prize winner, Sir John Vane. A spokesman denied there was any connection between the floatation and the resignations.

But a senior source within the company said: "Perhaps we were able to attract men like Black and Vane because all our profits did not go to wicker capitalism."

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CYCLING

A MEETING of rival team directors in a hotel room on the evening before the penultimate stage of Tour of Spain at the weekend has produced a man who has been more than six minutes behind him.

The get-together, on Friday night in Alcala de Henares, involved the directors of four Spanish teams, including Domingo Perrenu, head of the Orbea team, which Pedro Delgado, the winner of the race, was a member.

They decided that something must be done to provide a Spanish winner and to stop Millar and his chosen Delgado as the man to support. It is reported that this was also agreed by the head of the Zor team, whose Colombian rider Francisco Ro-

driguez was lying second to Millar.

They all knew that Millar would keep his eyes on the Colombian, who was only 10 seconds behind and not bother to worry about Delgado. Thus the stage was set for Millar to be duped and, with the help of the organisers, who did not give the times, any lead and refused the Peugeot manager permission to drive up and talk to his man Millar, that is what happened.

When Millar, punctured on Saturday's stage all the Spaniards attacked and the Orbea team had few people to help him. One rider tried, a Dutchman from the Panasonic Raleigh team, Gerard Veldscholten. But then, incredibly, the Orbea director was seen to drive up to Delgado and chat to him, whereupon he stopped helping Millar.

It seems that other teams were involved in the plot, although there is no proof

that any of the riders were paid to throw away their team allegiances to help Delgado. The director of the Belgian team, Florent Van Varenbergh, said: "Millar thought he could do it by himself. He should have talked to us before the Spaniards did."

Millar himself, speaking at his home in Lille, said last night: "The organisers would not allow me to speak to me so I had no idea how far ahead Delgado was. I was also in a position where I could not ride at my own pace because everyone else would have attacked and then I could have lost out at the end to Rodriguez."

"When I punctured two of my teammates helped to get me back in the back but then they were blown out. I had not one left. Two others said they were attempting to catch me but got stuck at a railway crossing. They waited but no train came."

He continued: "It was obvious to everyone who knows about cycling who was there that it was 100 riders against the eight Peugeot men. The whole race wanted us to lose. It is bad for cycling that they have to go to such lengths to get someone to lose. It does not do our credibility any good."

The need for a Spanish win was paramount to the organisers and to the television companies, who had increased their coverage this year. The race's technical director, Ramon Mendiburu, said: "I am delighted that the Spaniards have won a race in which the organisers and the television had invested so much."

The victorious Delgado thanked all the Spanish riders and all the other Spanish teams, without which, he said, his win would not have been possible. The 26-year-old Millar says he is a wiser man. "I will get my revenge," he said.

David Irvine reports on the Italian Championships

Lloyd's Roman express

TENNIS

John Lloyd's performance at the Italian Championships in Rome yesterday appeared to be a classic example of how not to play on clay. Yet he destroyed Pablo Arraya, one of South America's slow-court exponents, by 6-1, 6-1, leaving the 24-year-old Peruvian baffled and ultimately humiliated.

"I really didn't mean to be quite as aggressive as that," said the British No. 1, back under duress after a five-year absence. "I knew that if I stayed back, I'd get nowhere."

With the talented West German Boris Becker, the Swedish prodigy Mats Wilander, and their own Claudio Panatta competing for their attentions, it was intriguing to watch the partisan Italian crowds packing the terraces beneath the pines to watch Lloyd in action.

Intrigued by his novel approach—over the top, knowing nothing of grass-court play, they were fascinated to see

whether he could successfully

only once in the 62 minutes the match lasted did Lloyd have a break point against him. He saved that with a swinging serve and an angled volley. By the end, he had conceded only 10 points to the Argentine, who tried to pass him, to lob him and trap him in to long rallies.

At the start Arraya, a semi-finalist in 1982, seemed delighted to see Lloyd at the net at every opportunity. Obviously, he thought, he cannot keep volleying so well. The occasional pass got through but Lloyd kept pressing forward, giving the Peruvian no chance to establish a rhythm and the only break came at 2-1 in the second set.

Concentration was the key-note of Lloyd's performance. Maybe he remembered his last Roman match, on the same court in 1979. Then, he led Phil Dent 6-2, 3-0 but lost the next 12 games for his 15th successive defeat.

"I don't like playing here," said Lloyd. "But to have a leg-

itimate go at the French you have to play on it two weeks before." In round two, here, he will face Juan Aguilera, a Spaniard seeded 15th.

Not only Mezzadri but Carisone and Becker, both 17, won their matches in the first round. The Swedish first circuit success since last October, when he suffered a serious knee injury. But the defending champion, Andrei Gornes, was less fortunate, going out 6-2, 6-3, to the unseeded Swede Jan Gunnarsson.

Two weeks ago in Hamburg Gunnarsson also defeated Aguilera, the 1984 German title holder. His aim, the Swede says, is to make the Masters this year. For the left-handed Gornes, yesterday's defeat smacked of carelessness. Exactly the same thing happened when he was defending champion in 1983.

"I guess I need to practice a little more," Gornes said ruefully, adding that if his confidence and game were not 100 per cent he might miss the French championship.



LLOYD: Baffled Arraya

GOLF

David Davies

Rivals will hustle after Russell

DAVID J. RUSSELL'S win in the Car Care Plan International at Moor-town in Leeds on Sunday is the reason the European tour exists. As Russell contemplates a wholly different lifestyle over the next few years, his friends and colleagues on the tour will be telling themselves: "If he can do it, so can I."

It was Russell's first tournament victory in 12 years as a professional, and by winning £18,330 he took home more in a week than he had in his first 10 years of trying. He had never previously finished higher than 30th in the Order of Merit.

He had often got himself into a winning position, including two play-off wins, but always found away in the last vital minutes. In the closing moments at Moor-town, Gavin Christie, his mentor at Kedleston Park, Derby, who coaches Mark James, could hardly hear to watch.

Russell had hit two fine shots to 10 feet, but the first putt was downhill and he knocked it two feet past. "I could hardly stand to the ball," he said afterwards, "everything was shaking so badly."

But he healed the putt, albeit with not much in the way of a backswing, and things should be different now that he knows he can win. By doing so he can place a realisable progression, having finished 34th in Tunisia in the season's first tournament, 23rd in Madrid, 11th in Milan and now first.

Paul Fitzpatrick reviews an eventful season

Kiwis set to fill Aussie vacuum

RUGBY LEAGUE

The season, which ended last Saturday with St Helens defeating Hull Kingston Rovers in the Premiership final at Leeds, was one of the most absorbing and exciting for years.

All the major finals produced fine games, while the Sirk Cup Challenge Cup, the most glamorous competition of all, conjured up semi-finals and a final of unforgettable quality. The Slalom Lager Championship was always a fascinating struggle, deservedly won by Hull KR.

While it was possible to look back on the season with a deal of satisfaction and pleasure it should also be remembered that considerable stimulation was provided by overseas players, and that many of these overseas players might be here next season.

It was no surprise that the Australian authorities should become alarmed at the number of their players departing for England with the consequent disruption that has caused to their game.

Britain has now worked out a compromise and their proposal will be presented to the Australian Board this week. David Oxley, the League's secretary-general, is confident that an agreement can be reached suitable to both parties. But it might be safer at this stage to assume that fewer Australians will be playing in England next season, and that those who will be are unlikely to be of the class of Kenny Stering and Meninga.

The absence of players of

this quality will inevitably leave a vacuum, but compensation should be provided by the visit of the New Zealanders who possess the best crop of players they have ever had, guided by an outstanding coach in Graham Lowe.

How they finished

SLALOM LAGER CHAMPIONSHIP—First Division: Hull KR; Second Division: Hull KR; Third Division: Hull KR; Fourth Division: Hull KR; Fifth Division: Hull KR; Sixth Division: Hull KR; Seventh Division: Hull KR; Eighth Division: Hull KR; Ninth Division: Hull KR; Tenth Division: Hull KR.

Not that the game does not have its problems. While Wigan, Leeds and St Helens could reflect contentedly on increased attendances, last season, and while most First Division clubs were just about remaining solvent, the Second Division, where an attendance of more than 1,000 is now regarded as good.

The struggles of Fulham, Southampton and Brighton illustrated again how difficult the game finds it taking root in "alien" territory.

It is time, too, that the League took long hard look at its own structure. The four-up, four-down promotion and relegation system has been roundly condemned for years.

But at least the Rugby League can look forward to next season with optimism and a degree of pride. Not all sports can say the same.

Richard Jago

Housewives' choice draw

BADMINTON

England's two best-known players, Gillian Gibbs and Nora Perry, have been given a marvellous chance of ending their outcast status with two medals each from the World Championships in Calgary next month. The draw makes it possible for them to meet in the final of the mixed doubles and their fourth and final seeding in the women's doubles could give the 1980 All England champions one last glorious tilt for the world title.

Somewhat unkindly and inaccurately dubbed "the housewives' choice" because of their combined age of 64, they still managed to get to 13-14 in the final game with the world champions Lin Ying and Wu

Dixi in an extraordinary All England quarter-final at Wembley in March. Gibbs and Perry have been assisted by the two-pair-per-country rule which prevents Wu Jianqiu and Guan Weizhen, the All England finalists, from being nominated. Nick Yates, both seeded in the men's singles, have been helped by the withdrawal of the great Indonesian Liem Swie King.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SEEDINGS: Men's Singles: 1. Liem Swie King (Indo); 2. Liem Swie King (Indo); 3. Liem Swie King (Indo); 4. Liem Swie King (Indo); 5. Liem Swie King (Indo); 6. Liem Swie King (Indo); 7. Liem Swie King (Indo); 8. Liem Swie King (Indo); 9. Liem Swie King (Indo); 10. Liem Swie King (Indo).

EQUESTRIANISM

John Kerr

Distinctive company at Windsor

Captain Mark Phillips, twice a previous winner of the T1 Group Windsor three-day event, plans to ride Distinctive, a 12-year-old gelding, in the three-day event, which will be held at Windsor on May 24-26.

Princess Anne, who has been actively involved with the development of horse trials at Windsor, hoped to compete on Black Ice but has withdrawn as her horse is not fully fit.

Windsor, twice raised off in recent years but successfully staged in desperately wet conditions 12 months ago, has attracted an entry of 180, while a field of 30 is expected for the Creta British Junior Championship.

And, already associated with point-to-pointing and hunter-chasing, are extending their horizons, despite the handicap of the new three-day event in October at Chatsworth where one-day horse trials have been held for almost 30 years.

Chatsworth, which will be of advanced standard, replaces Wyke, although it will not, until the additional course construction necessary, the sponsors have an initial involvement of £60,000 but the sum should run into six figures over three years.

Among those welcoming yesterday's announcement was Virginia Holgate, the new Badminton champion, who is just back from Switzerland where she was one of the squad which, despite the handicap of only three riders, took the team title from five other nations.

FIXTURES

Soccer (7.30 unless stated)
CAROL V. DIVISION: 1. Norwich; 2. Ipswich; 3. Southampton; 4. Liverpool; 5. Tottenham; 6. Arsenal; 7. Manchester United; 8. Newcastle; 9. Aston Villa; 10. Everton; 11. West Ham; 12. Fulham; 13. Cardiff; 14. Middlesbrough; 15. Sheff Wed; 16. Burnley; 17. Nott Forest; 18. Derby; 19. Leeds; 20. Coventry; 21. Luton; 22. Barnsley; 23. Millwall; 24. Blackpool; 25. Peterborough; 26. Shrewsbury; 27. Walsley; 28. Gillingham; 29. Exeter; 30. Bournemouth; 31. Rotherham; 32. Doncaster; 33. Stockport; 34. Rochdale; 35. Tranmere; 36. Grimsby; 37. Wrexham; 38. Colchester; 39. Luton; 40. Barnsley; 41. Millwall; 42. Blackpool; 43. Peterborough; 44. Shrewsbury; 45. Walsley; 46. Exeter; 47. Bournemouth; 48. Rotherham; 49. Doncaster; 50. Stockport; 51. Rochdale; 52. Tranmere; 53. Grimsby; 54. Wrexham; 55. Colchester; 56. Luton; 57. Barnsley; 58. Millwall; 59. Blackpool; 60. Peterborough; 61. Shrewsbury; 62. Walsley; 63. Exeter; 64. Bournemouth; 65. Rotherham; 66. Doncaster; 67. Stockport; 68. 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Family Education

The Family Education Centre, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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Across: 1 Enterprise doomed to failure (4). 2 Place to take flight (7). 3 Tranquil (4). 4 Customs (the pity) (5). 5 Not sacred (7). 6 Staircase from deck (9-10). 7 Initiator, especially of book (6). 8 Go against (6). 9 Royal planes (6, 6). 10 Entry (7). 11 Bisect (5). 12 Lease (4). 13 Deliberate - given to reading (8).

Down: 1 Rubbish depositary (4). 2 Place to take flight (7). 3 Sad at let-down or failure (12). 4 Gambling place (6). 5 Permit (5). 6 Robin's followers (5, 3). 7 Talented - didi (12). 8 Conquer (8). 9 Shakespeare play (7). 10 Counterbalance - printing process (6). 11 English composer (5). 12 Chaos - military social (4).

Solution No. 4,708: Across: 1 Dog biscuit; 2 Envelope; 3 Nymph; 10 Sort; 11 Agitation; 13 Adhere; 15 Pursue; 17 Calamity; 18 Jane; 21 Toast; 22 Crocus; 23 Black sheep. Down: 1 Diver; 2 Gale; 3 Impugn; 4 Consume; 5 Innates; 6 Persian cat; 9 Horse sense; 12 Armistice; 14 Hold-all; 16 Slick; 19 Aesop; 20 Fore.

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